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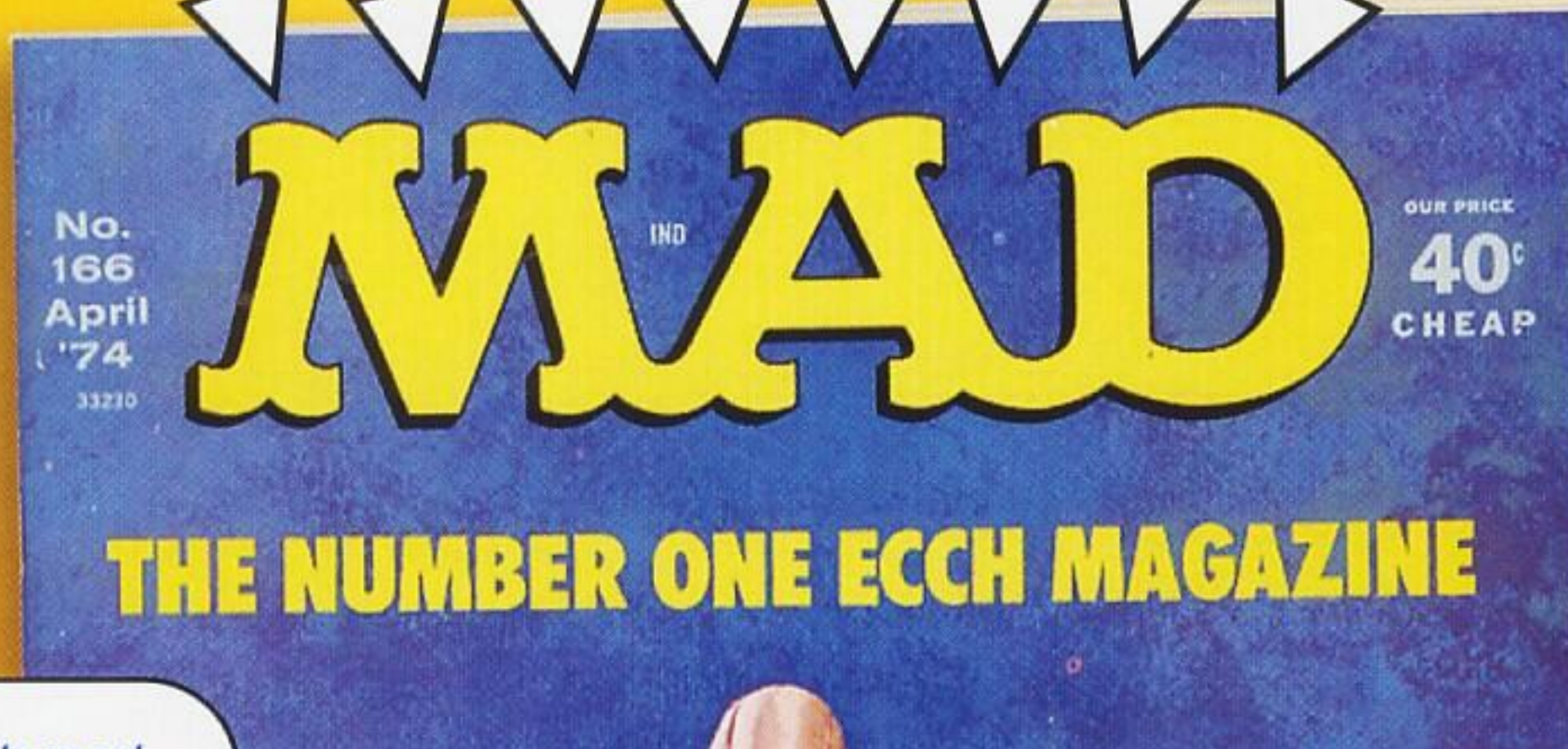


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JUNE 2007

NUMBER 478

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FRONT COVER ARTIST: MARK FREDRICKSON

REJECTED ARMY RECRUITMENT POSTERS:

WRITER: JACOB LAMBERT

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PAGES 27 & 47 AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS

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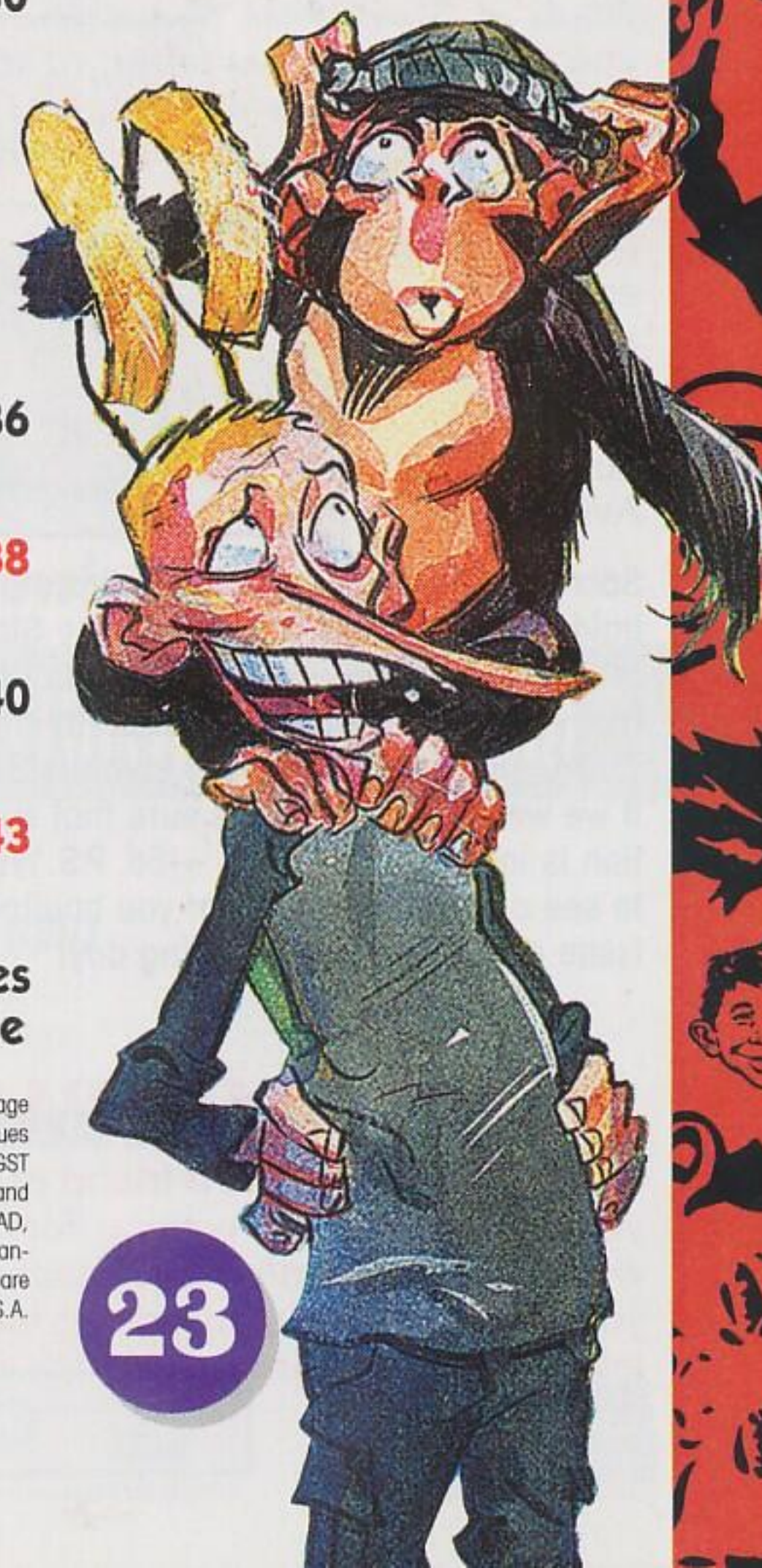
Nowadays
at many airlines,
the only thing "up in
the air" is whether
the plane will ever
take off!



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Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™

I've been a MAD fan for years. For a long while I've read and reread each issue till it practically fell apart. As a rational person, I was sure no man would like a MAD-reading girlfriend, so when I met Paz, I didn't tell him about my little addiction. One day, as we were leaving for a vacation abroad, my boyfriend and I came across a magazine stand. I couldn't resist the glossy covers and bought an issue. To my great joy, Paz turned out to be a closeted MAD fan as well, and we've been reading together ever since. A few weeks ago we got engaged (and are due to marry in October). The first thing my husband-to-be bought us was a 2-year subscription to MAD! Anyway, after boring you with all the details, I was hoping the heart-warming story is enough to grant me a little dumb wish from your *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™*. Can you please print this letter, or maybe (dare I dream) our picture, so I can present it as a wedding gift to my lovely Paz? (I don't earn enough for a real gift).



Mor (Blur) Lurie, Tel Aviv, Israel

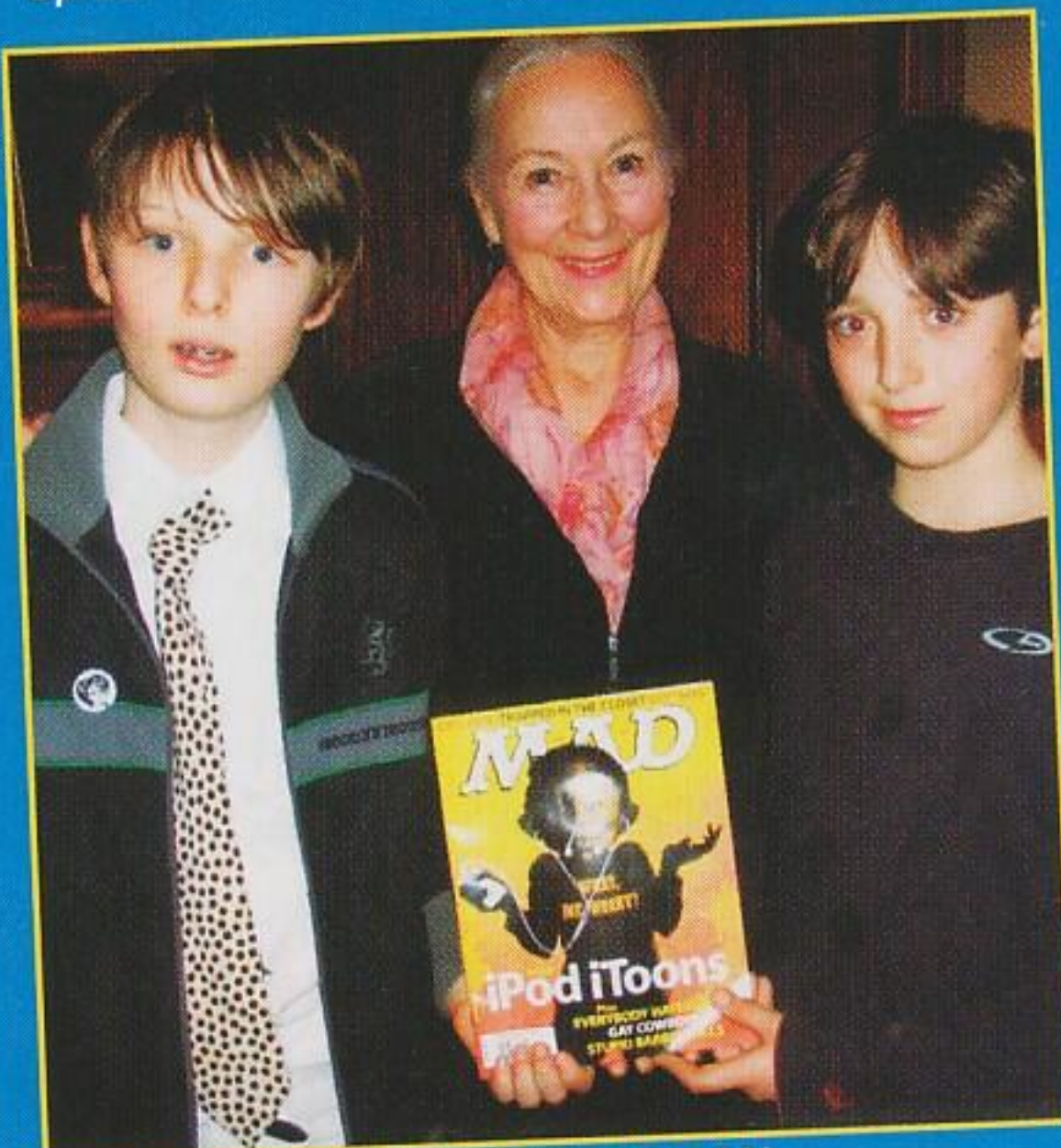
Sacre Blur — We don't know if this statistic holds true for Israel, but here in the States, 50% of marriages end in divorce. But being that you're both MAD fans, it's pretty much 100% guaranteed that your union is doomed! If we were you, we'd make sure that subscription is in your name only! —Ed. P.S. We'd love to see a photo of the two of you holding an issue of MAD on your wedding day!

MAD IN MYSPACE

If you haven't become a friend of MAD's yet — what are you waiting for? Go to www.myspace.com/worldofmad! And if you've added us already, don't forget to leave your comments about the newest issue!

MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS

Jacob Buhler of Brooklyn, NY sent in this photo of himself, his friend Hudson Sackrider-DeRicco and Spider-Man's Aunt May, Rosemary Harris. Judging by the boys' desperate and glazed-over looks, she clearly had just given them the boring "With great power comes great responsibility" speech that she gives Peter in every freaking *Spider-Man* movie!



JACOB, MS. HARRIS AND HUDSON

THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE SNOW BUSINESS

My uncle lives in upstate New York and we were visiting there with my cousins when this winter storm came. We got snowed in the house and had to wait for hours on end for help to come. We were wandering around the house when we found my uncle's collection of MAD magazines from the '80s. Thanks for providing us with hours and hours of entertainment! We would never have made it through without you guys!

Name Withheld,
Via letters@madmagazine.com

Err...you're welcome? Say, did you happen to thank the people who actually *rescued* you? We're glad we entertained you and all, but we're pretty sure that the lion's share of your gratitude should go to whoever dug you out of that snowy grave! We hope you didn't lose any extremities to frostbite! Enjoy the thaw! —Ed.

Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™ UPDATE

I am writing to officially retract a letter I wrote to the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™*. I asked you guys to please petition my parents, because we were, at the time, as close to Amish as you get without owning a butter churn! However, since that letter was printed, we've gotten Comcast cable, a faster Internet connection and I even have an iPod now! This may sound average for you guys, but it's huge leaps forward for my parents, believe me. I don't know if it was just good luck, or if the Usual Gang of Idiots have brain-washed my family, but either way, thanks!

Nick Kuell, Danbury, CT

Nickelback — We're feeling a bit put out here at the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™*. We're used to this being a thankless job, but this newest letter really pushed our buttons! We could understand if you retracted your initial request because you had changed your mind and decided that the material items didn't matter. But the fact is, you made a wish, we granted it and now you've written in to take back your original wish — as though your dreams came true completely independent of all our hard work on your behalf. That's like going to the emergency room with a severed arm, having a doctor stitch it back on and then saying to him "Oh, well, looks like I don't need you after all, my arm is fine!" We're happy for your good fortune, but a bit more gratitude (and perhaps a muffin basket) wouldn't have killed you! —Ed.

MAD BLURBS

In his newest medical thriller, *The Fifth Vial*, author Michael Palmer made the mistake of mentioning MAD. We hope this doesn't affect the sales!

A NOVEL BY THE NEW YORK TIMES
BESTSELLING AUTHOR

"Beside the bed there was a chair, a pitcher of water in a holder on the wall, and some paper cups. In the chair there was a magazine called MAD, which had lots of weird cartoon drawings, but way too many words for him to read."

PALMER
THE FIFTH
VIAL

A GRIM FERRY TALE

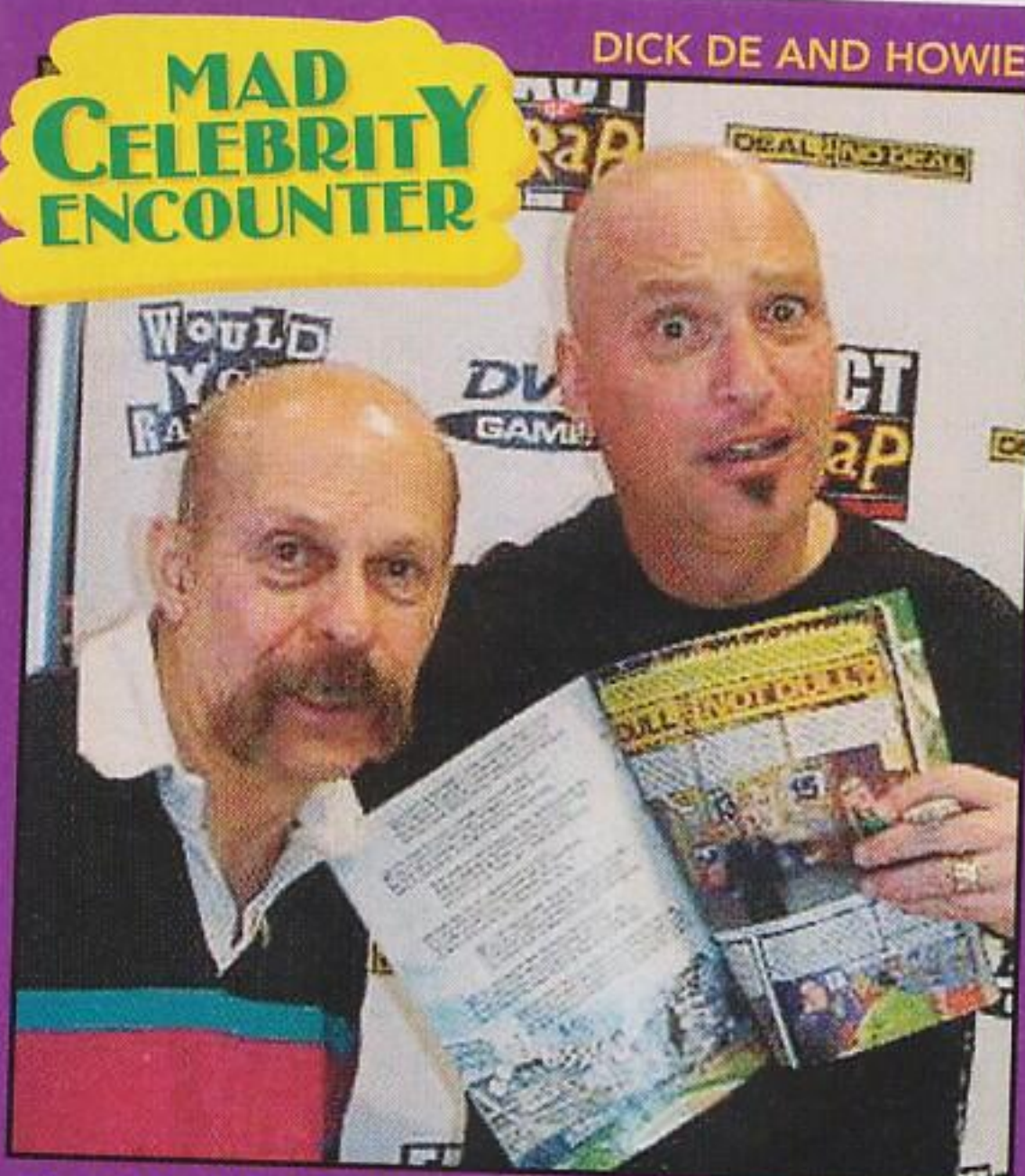
I have a problem that regrettably only you can help with. I am 23 years old and everyday I commute to work with this clan of geriatrics on the Staten Island Ferry who never tire of telling me every single mind-numbing account of their mundane lives. Most of the time, I'm trying to ward off a hangover and have no real interest in hearing about how so-and-so's cat isn't reacting well to his brand of food, or how one guy's indigestion kept him up since 4 a.m. It's enough to make me wonder how cold the water would be if I dove off the side of the ferry. My only respite from it is the one day each month when MAD comes out, and they're all too consumed with your crap to tell me about their own. But sadly, this is but one morning of tranquility which is why I am asking you to make MAD a daily publication. Think about it at least.

Raymond McConville,
Staten Island, NY

A Ray In the Life — We don't think you should do anything as drastic as jumping overboard — and we certainly aren't about to work any harder on this magazine. From the look of those geezers, they don't have much Ferry-riding time left, if you know what we mean. You might say that it looks like their subscriptions are about to expire! That is to say, they're old and will be dead soon! In fact, by this time next month, all your problems could be solved! See ya on the Hurricane Deck! —Ed.
P.S. You shouldn't worry about getting enough peace and quiet — judging from the tone of your whiny and boring letter, you're going to be spending most of your life alone! —Ed.



RAYMOND (RIGHT) AND HIS POSSE



Deal Or No Deal host Howie Mandel recently confronted MAD's Maddest Writer Dick DeBartolo about "The Dull Or Not Dull" spoof that he wrote in MAD #466. Judging by Howie's expression, he didn't like it...or he ate some bad clam strips!



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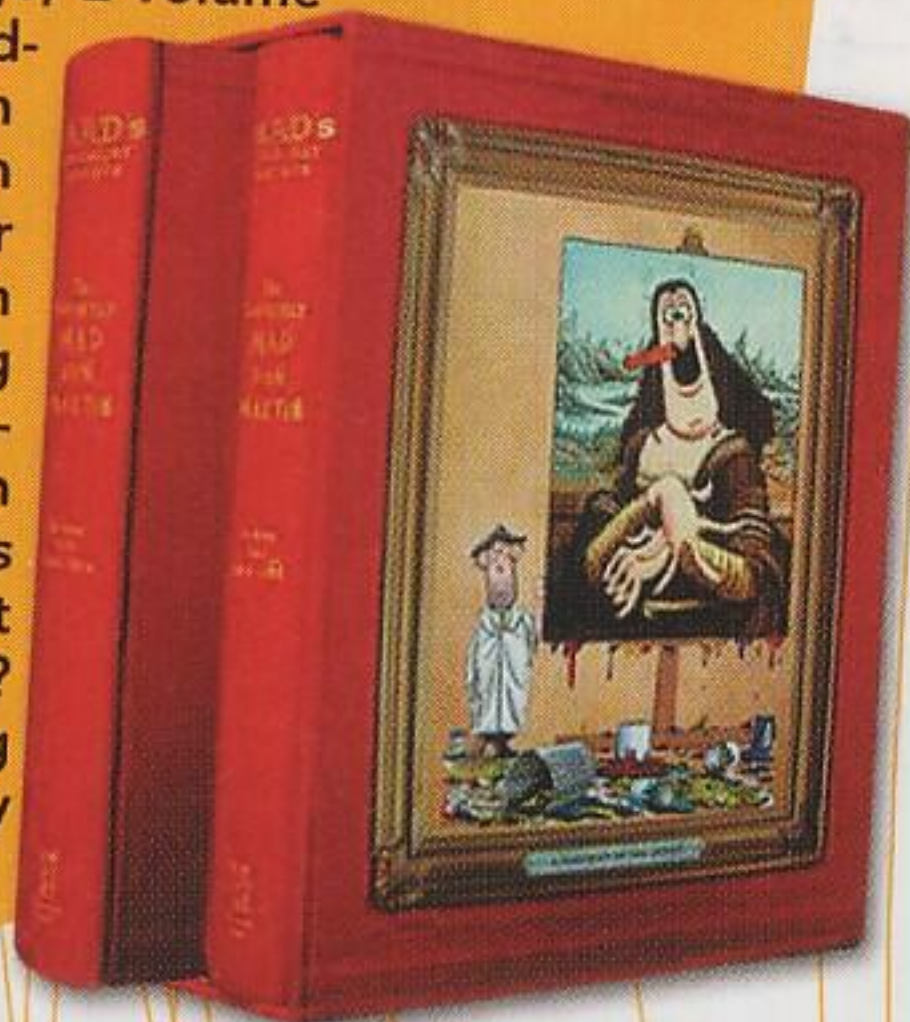
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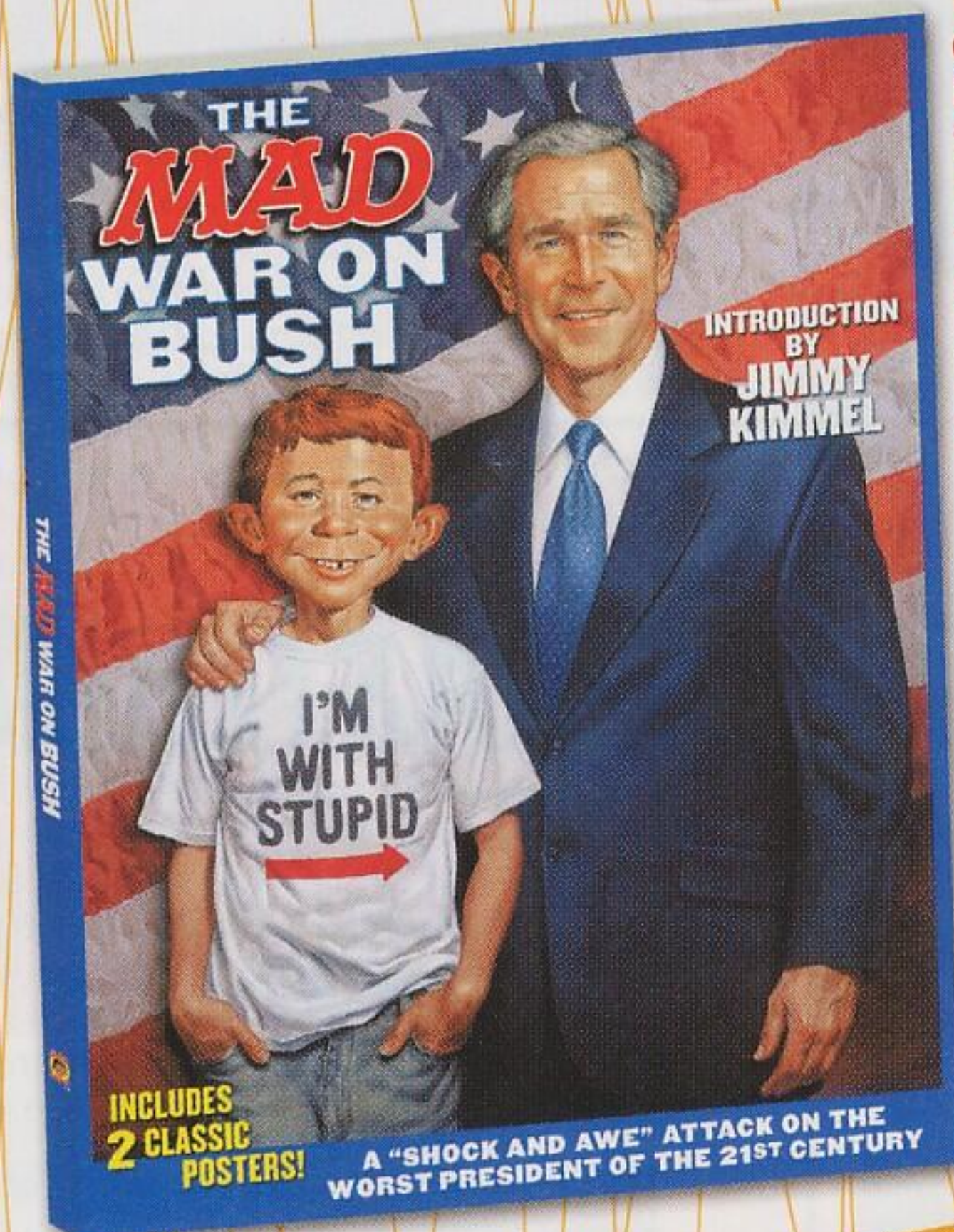
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PAGE-O-PLUGS

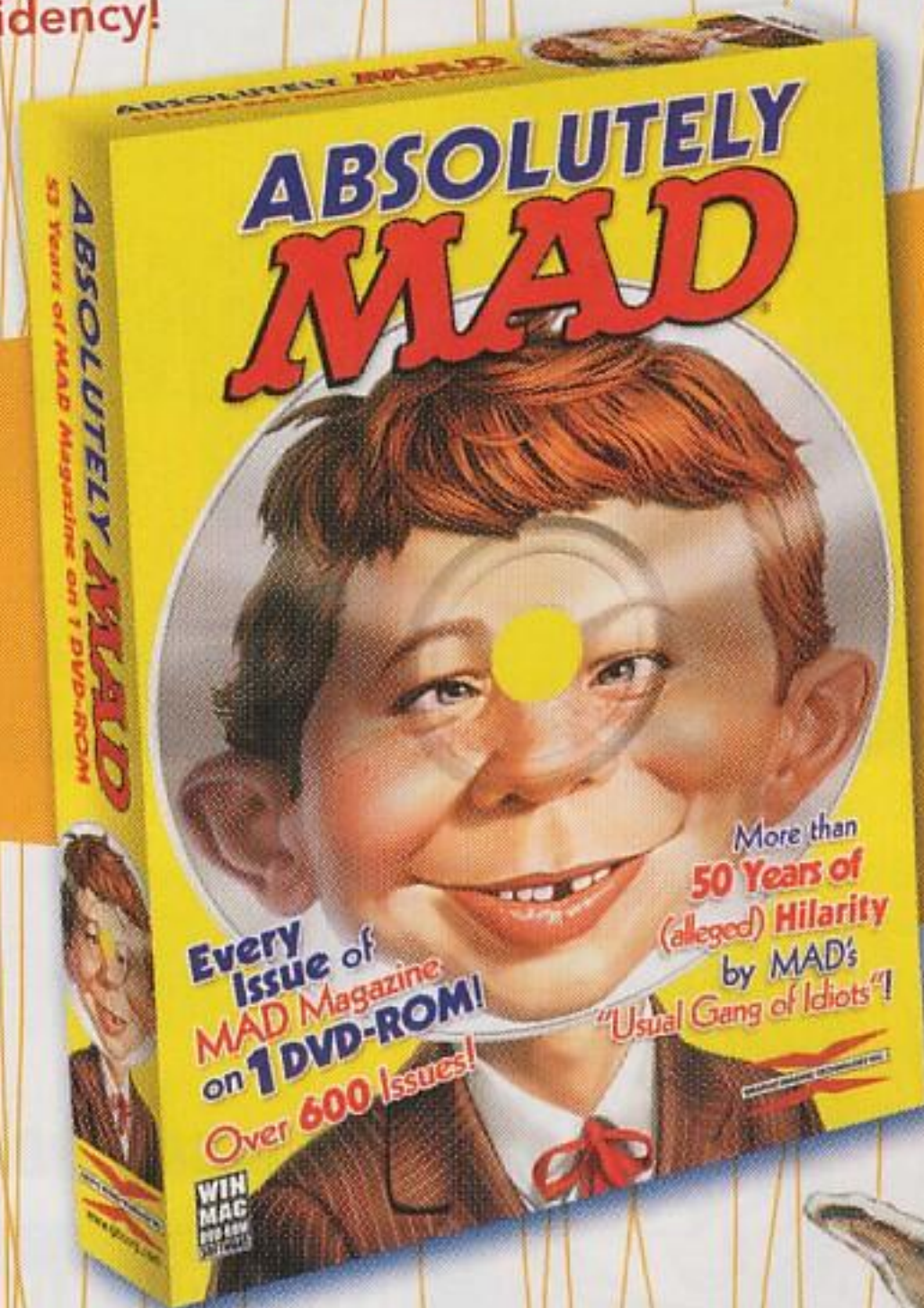
Splink-loving fans of Don Martin rejoice! In October 2007, book publisher Running Press will release *The Completely MAD Don Martin*, a 1,000 page, 2-volume slip-cased set including every single Don Martin piece from his illustrious 30-year collaboration with MAD. This amazing behemoth even features an introduction by *The Far Side's* Gary Larson! So what are you waiting for? Oh, you're waiting for October...very well then.



Be on the lookout for Topps' new Hollywood Zombies Trading Cards, featuring the artwork of MAD's own Mark Fredrickson, Drew Friedman, Hermann Mejia, Mark Stutzman and Richard Williams. Enjoy these sneak peeks at Hermann's "Wacko Jacko" card and Drew's "Donald Stump" artwork!

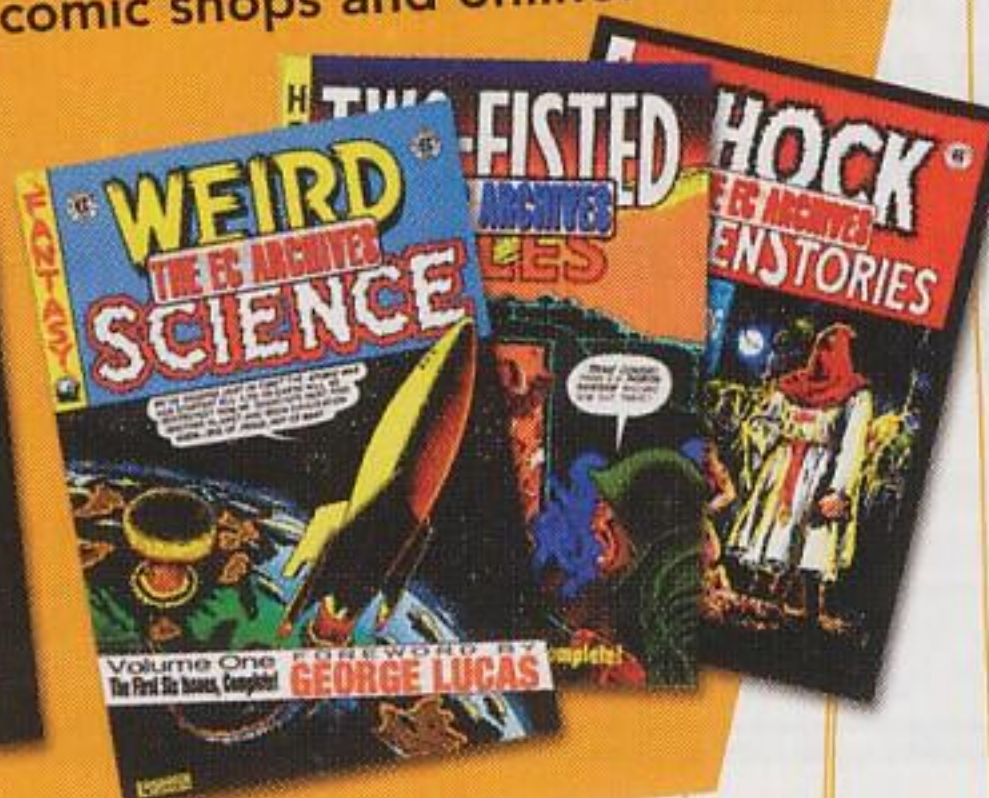
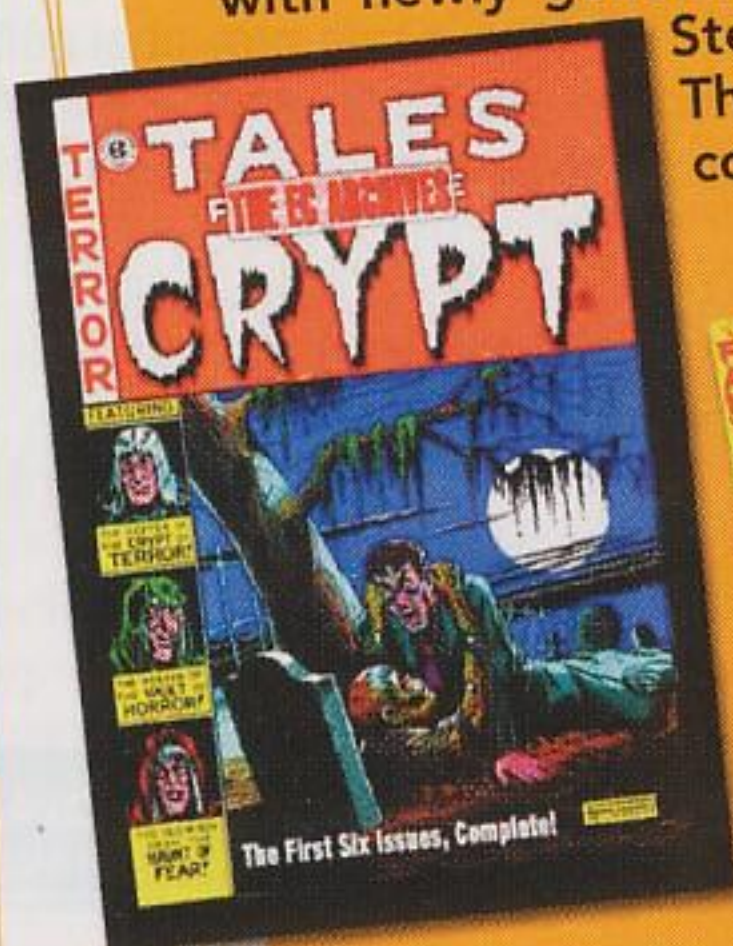


Coming to bookstores this June, MAD bids a less-than-fond farewell to our Commander-In-Chief with *The MAD War on Bush* — a 96-page collection of all of our "best" Bush material, including two pull-out posters and an introduction by Jimmy Kimmel! At least one good thing came out of his presidency!



Now you can have EVERY issue of MAD magazine on one easy-to-ignore DVD! That's over 600 issues all on one disc and it's on sale now! (By the way, this issue isn't on it!)

Before MAD was a magazine, for its first 23 issues, MAD was a comic book put out by EC Comics. EC also put out such titles as *Tales From The Crypt*, *Shock Suspenstories*, *Weird Science* and *Two-Fisted Tales*. Those four titles from the 1950s are now available in hardcover volumes, printed from the original artwork with newly generated color and new forewords by Steven Spielberg and George Lucas! They're on sale now at bookstores, comic shops and online!



Just in time for Star Wars' 30th anniversary comes *MAD About Star Wars* — a collection of MAD's best Star Wars material from the last three decades! Written by former Lucasfilm employee and current MAD Senior Editor, Jonathan Bresman, it includes, not only tons of articles, but also trivia, observations and exclusive anecdotes from MAD writers and artists, Lucasfilm staff, and stars of the films! Plus a forward by George Lucas himself! It's on sale in the fall.



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The Big Easel

Here's a shot of the new paint job on my '85 Toyota pickup. I've got plans for the whole truck, but I'm still reading through *Spy Vs. Spy: The Complete Casebook* for some more inspiration.

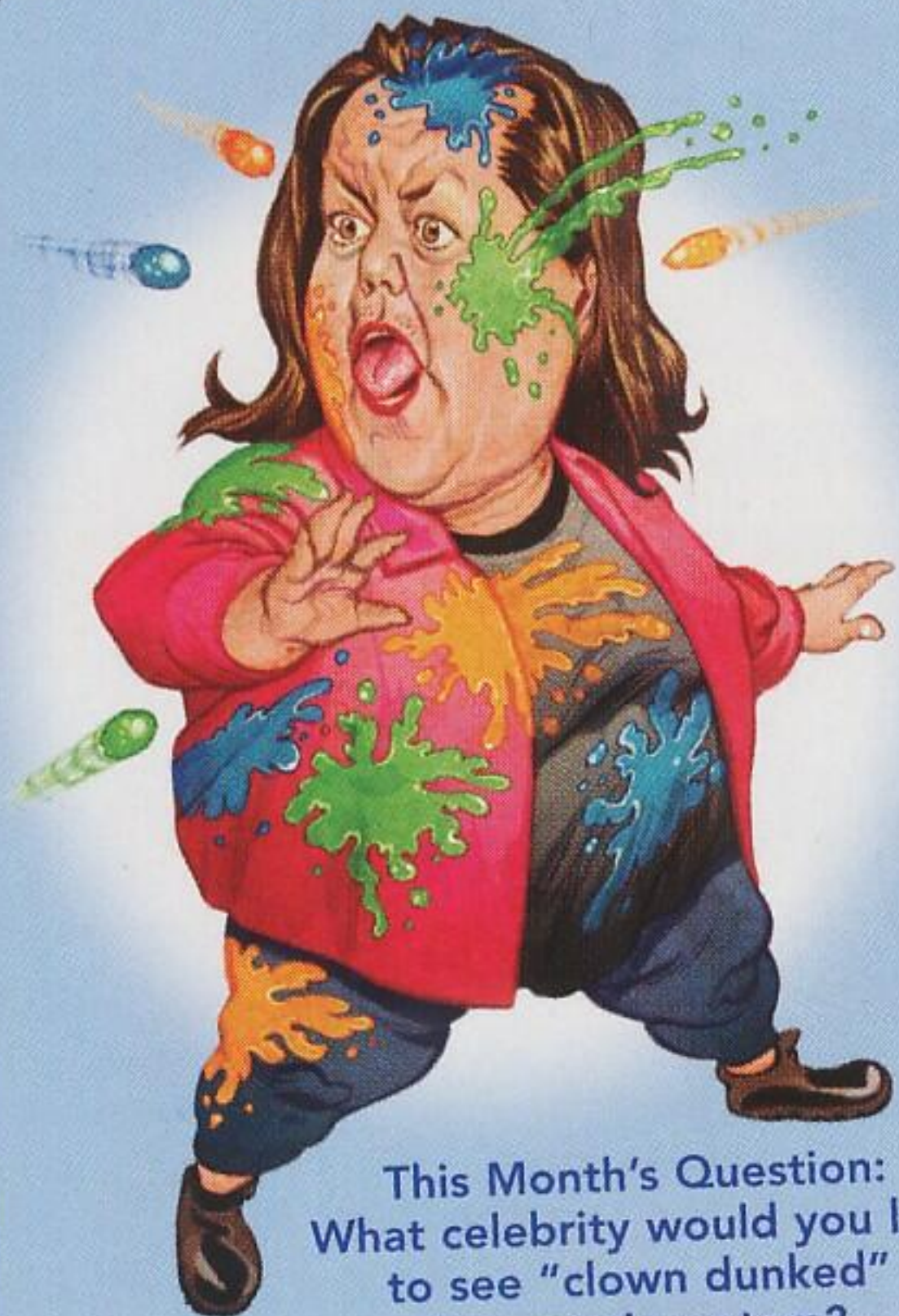
Buck Steele, Pahrump, NV

Buck Naked — Your truck looks awesome! But just be careful that you don't get rear-ended, because then instead of the Spys, you'll have a tribute to the MAD Fold-In! —Ed.



THE BIG QUESTION

For the past few issues, we asked readers to send in their votes for which celebrity they would most like to see gunned down by paintballers. In a landslide "victory" our readers chose morning talk show loud mouth Rosie O'Donnell to take a rainbow-hued pummeling. Enjoy, you blood-thirsty jackals!



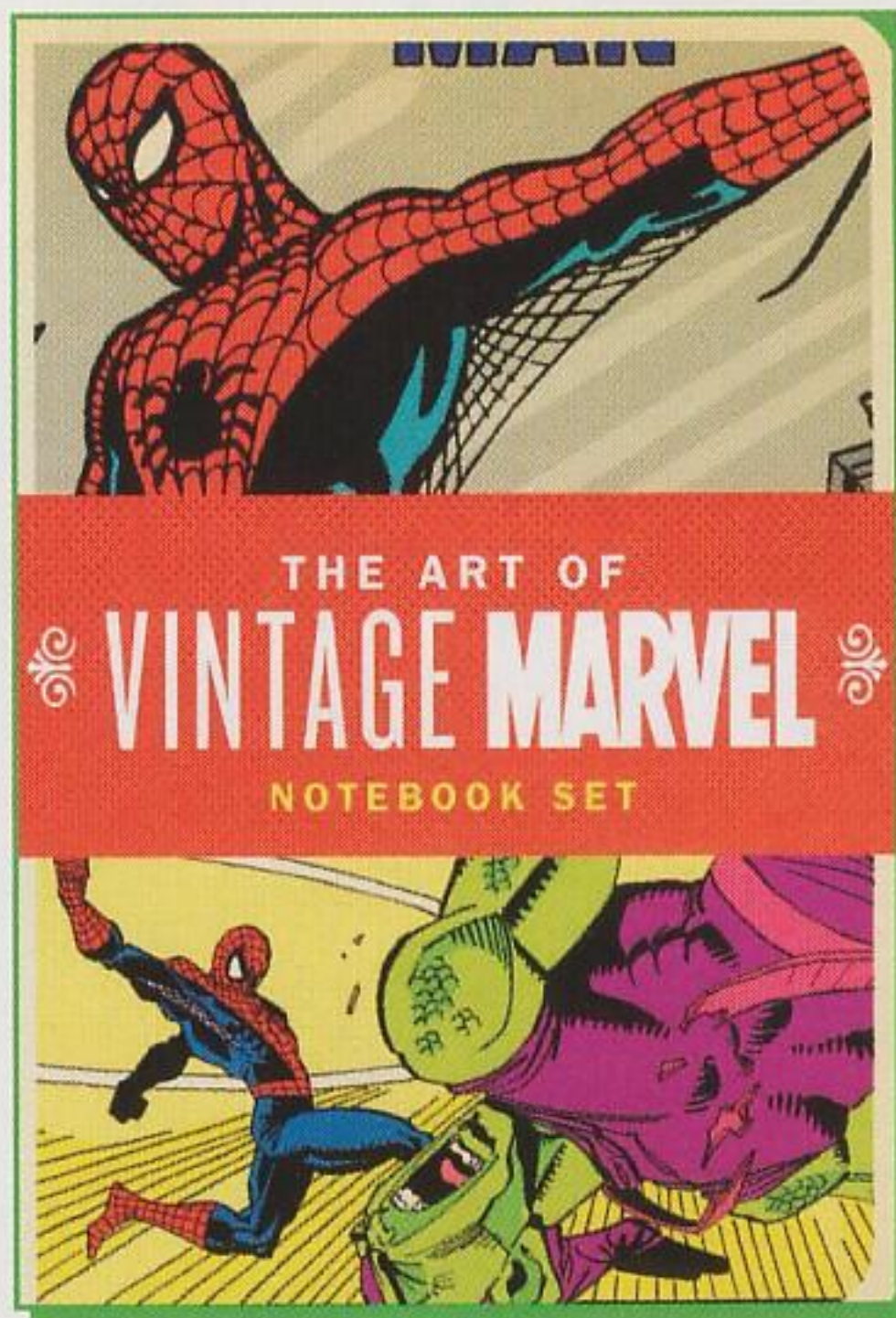
This Month's Question:
What celebrity would you like
to see "clown dunked"
in a septic system?

- Anna Nicole Smith's Sidekick/Lawyer/Opportunist Howard K. Stern
- Presidential Player-Hater Hillary Clinton
- American Idol's Space Filler Ryan Seacrest
- Man-faced Gyrator Fergie

Please send your votes by e-mail (letters@madmagazine.com) and make sure you put "The Big Question" in the subject line, or via snail mail to Amy "The Big Question" Vozeolas, MAD Magazine, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019.

READER ALERT!

If you were lucky enough to get your letter printed on this month's Letters Page then you'll get *The Art of Vintage Marvel Notebook Set* courtesy of our friends at Chronicle Books. Don't get your webs in a tangle if you didn't make it, they are on sale now!



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Contributing Artists And Writers
the usual gang of idiots

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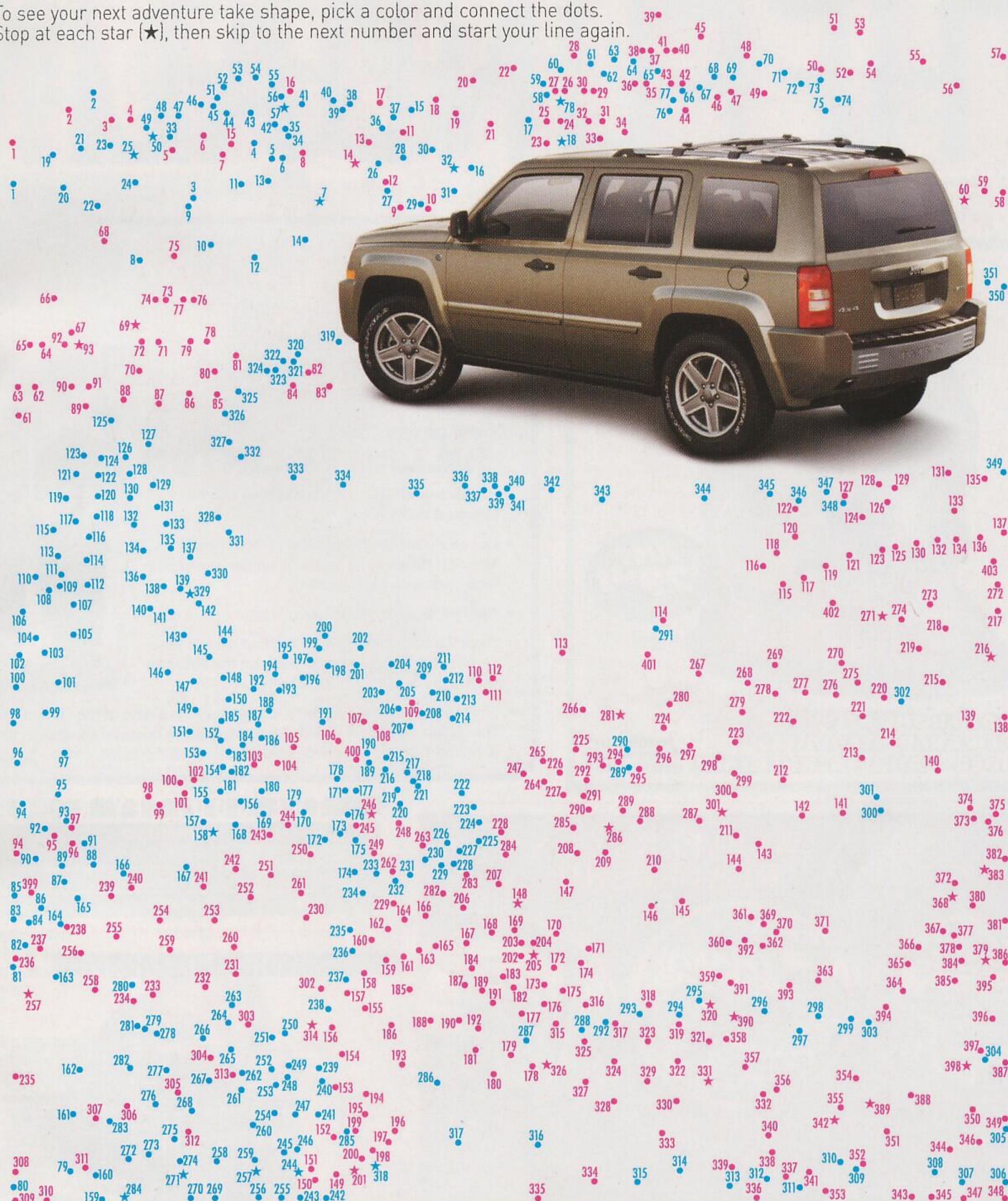
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MEET THE '08 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

THIS MONTH: HILLARY CLINTON

- Her "unannounced" agenda this time around? Universal Hair Care.
- Has an almost insurmountable lead in the polls amongst the growing sector of women voters who have slept with her husband.
- Has had "work" done on her ankles.
- What she says she'll miss most about leaving the Senate? Those long moonlit walks on the Potomac with fellow Senator Chuck Schumer.
- She's vowed to return America to the prosperous days of the Clinton '90s. That is, just before the wealth-on-paper dotcom bust and companies like Enron and Worldcom sh*t the bed.



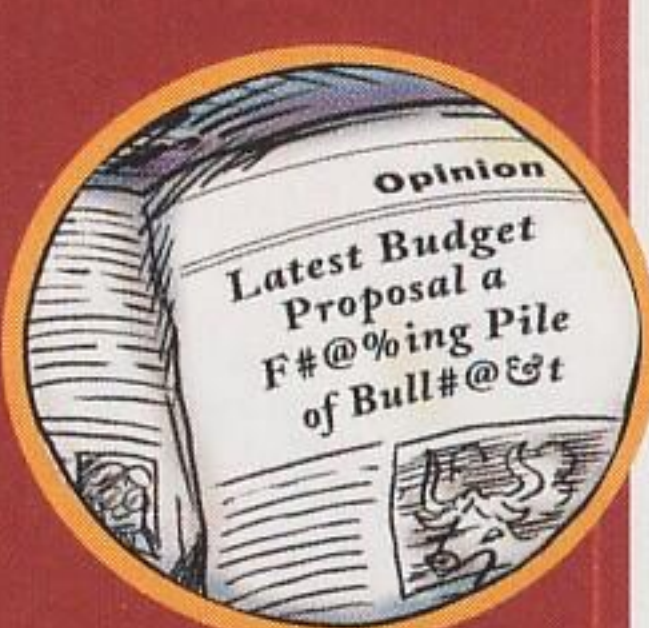
HOW NEWSPAPERS CAN REGAIN READERSHIP



Plant false rumors about the competition.



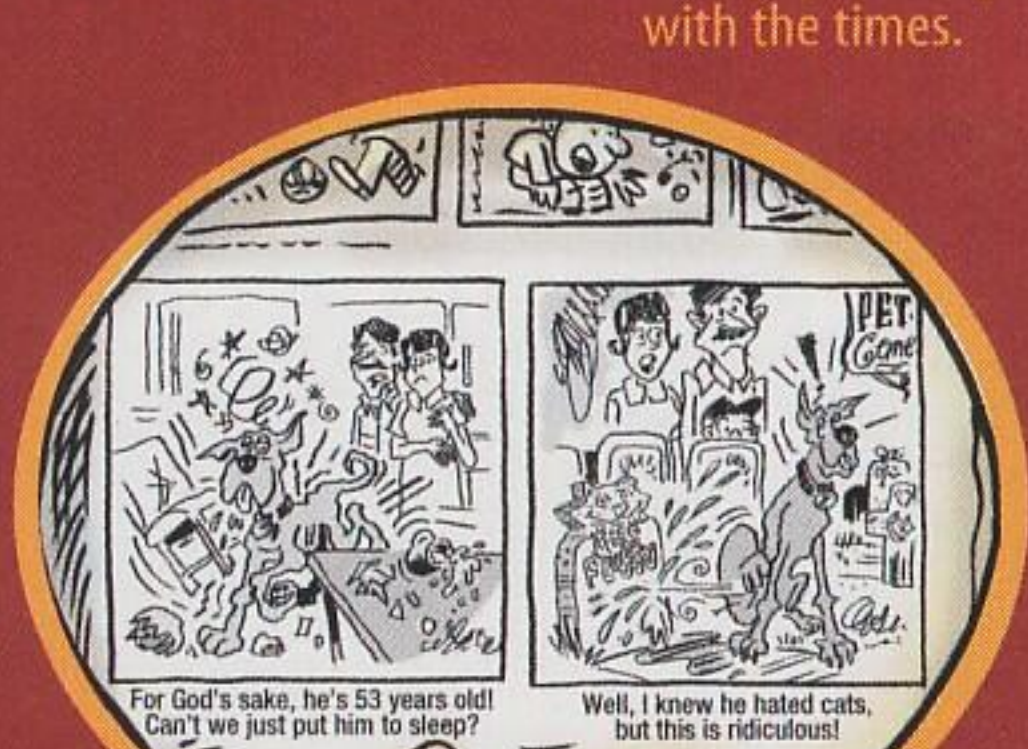
If they can't make ink that doesn't rub off on readers' fingers, at least make it edible.



Lose the stuffy priggishness of the editorial pages and get with the times.



Sell papers in those mechanical claw machines. Most guys won't quit until they've spent at least ten bucks in quarters.

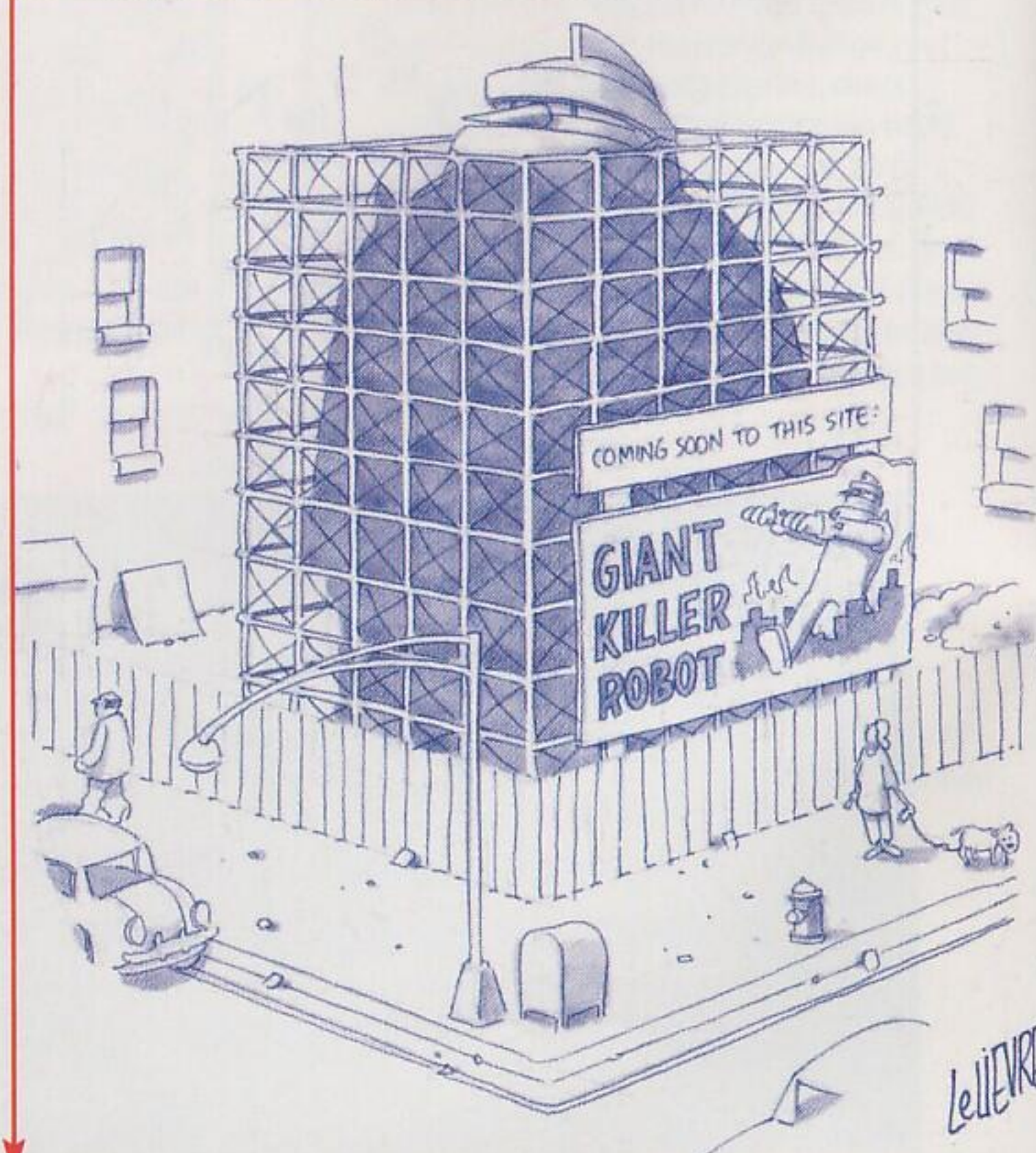


Every day, run TWO "Marmadukes"!

THE GODFREY REPORT

IN	FIVE MINUTES AGO	OUT
Derelicts	Tramps	Skells
Foyers	Lobbies	Vestibules
Traipsing	Cavorting	Gallivanting

LELIEVRE AND LET LIVE



PAGES

THE YUNGBLUTH & THE RESTLESS

STAY DOWN! STAY DOWN!



SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS FROM AL GORE'S TESTIMONY IN FRONT OF CONGRESS



Why is it always so damned cold whenever I make these global warming speeches? It's almost like God hates me or something.



We cannot leave this ailing planet to the next generation. Have you *seen* those apathetic, body-pierced freaks?

When Earth cries out, we should caress and comfort her, not bitch-slap her like a cheap whore.

I want to see Earth Day become a major holiday, with erotic greeting cards, tire store sales, and all that crap.

With this amazing eco-friendly soap, I'm helping the environment and softening my hands while I'm doing the dishes!



The world's oceans may be dangerously over-fished, but I'm sorry: I just can't pass up the all-you-can-eat deals at Red Lobster!



Now if the hole in the ozone opened up directly over the Supreme Court, that wouldn't exactly qualify as a catastrophe...



Back in Tennessee we have a saying, which I can't recall, since I've spent the last several decades in Washington and Hollywood.

I am currently working on another movie, though this one is about a pair of comically-mismatched cops who have to cooperate long enough to bust a drug ring.

The other day, I saw a Prius with a "Bush/Cheney 2004" bumper sticker. It totally blew my mind!



Dear Valued Customer:

Recently a television crew in New York City filmed a pack of six to eight rats scurrying on the floor, tables and counters in one of our restaurants. We want you to know that this is **totally unacceptable** to us and we are taking immediate steps to make sure this never happens again.

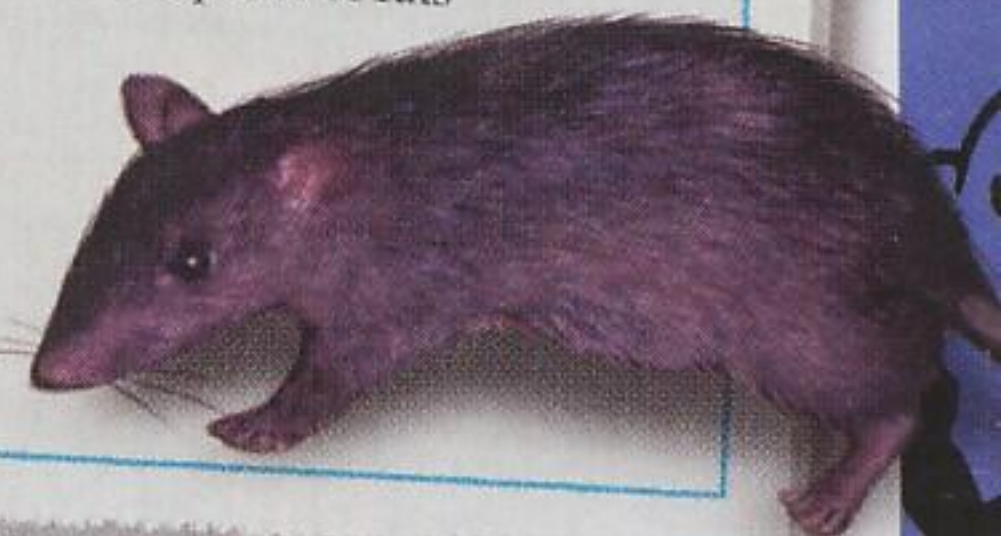
1. **EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY** there is a maximum three rats per restaurant limit. Any restaurant franchise with more than that number must **IMMEDIATELY** send the overage to a franchise with no rats or one that is below quota.
3. Twice a day, employees must gather any and all rat droppings in one place so Health Inspectors can count them more easily. "One hundred rat dropping in the basement" sounds much better than "30 rat dropping were found on the tables, 34 on the counters and 36 on the food prep tables"!
4. When handling rodent droppings, **employees must wear rubber gloves!** If time permits, these gloves should be discarded before preparing food for customers.
5. To avoid a potentially dangerous stampede towards the exits, if a rodent happens to show up during the restaurant's operating hours, employees have been trained to say something like: "Oh that must be Rodney. Thank God he showed up! That poor little boy who lost him here earlier today has called a dozen times to ask if we found him!"
6. Finally, when the restaurant is closed, **ALL LIGHTS MUST BE TURNED OFF!** Our experts assure us this will keep the disgusting vermin at bay. And by "disgusting vermin," we mean nosey reporters with cameras! They can't film in total darkness!

We at Kentucky Fried Taco Hut want you to know that we value your patronage — especially after that whole e-coli outbreak a few months back. **Whew!** We really thought we were goners. But Americans proved their love of cheap bad food and came roaring back through our doors. We want to assure you that every one of our employees is committed to hiding this problem so you never again turn on your TV and see packs of rats swarming over our restaurants!

Sincerely,

Bill Burrows

Bill Burrows
Vice President, Public Relations Debacles



MELVIN & JENKINS' GUIDE TO WEEKEND GUESTS

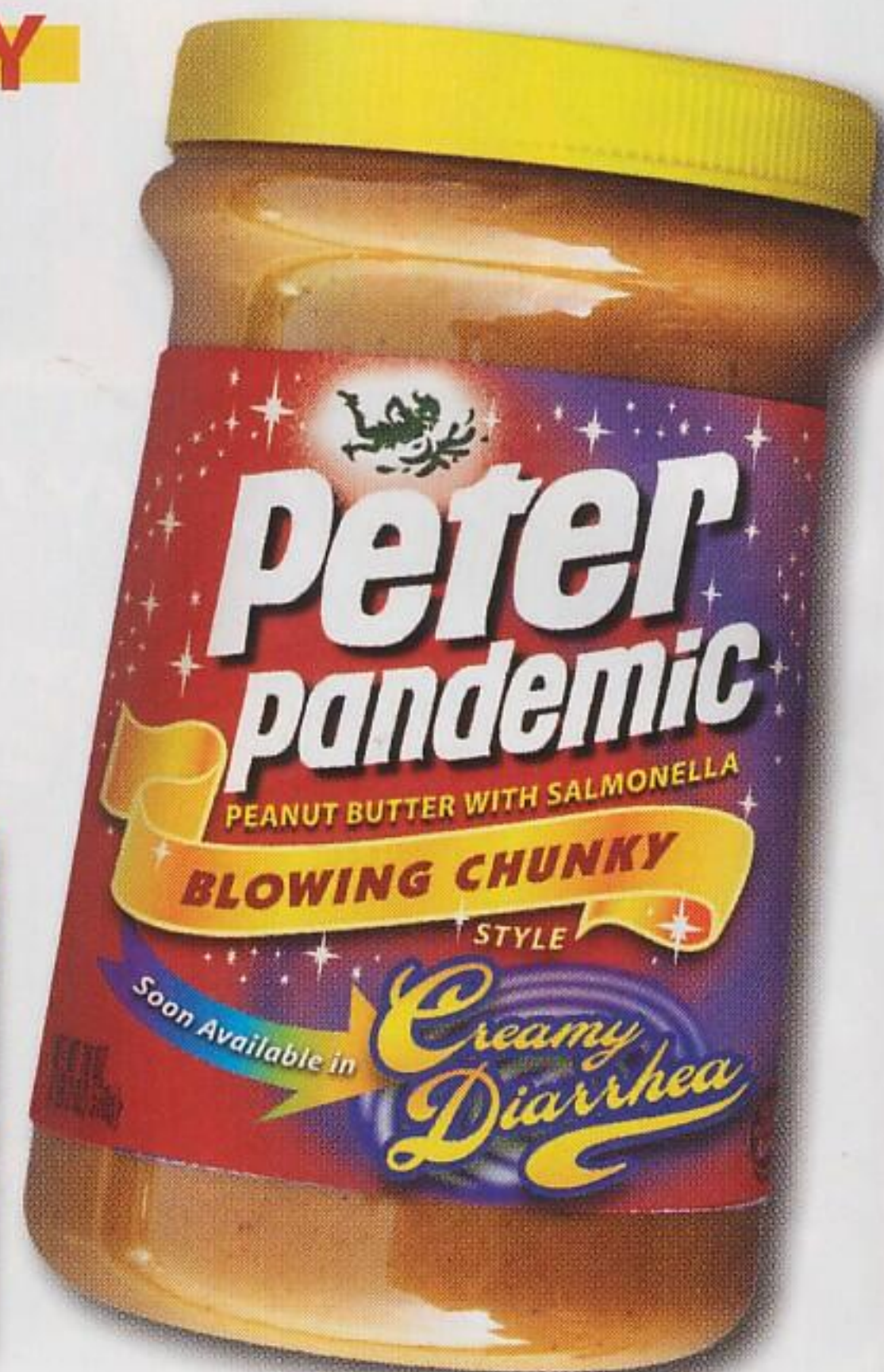
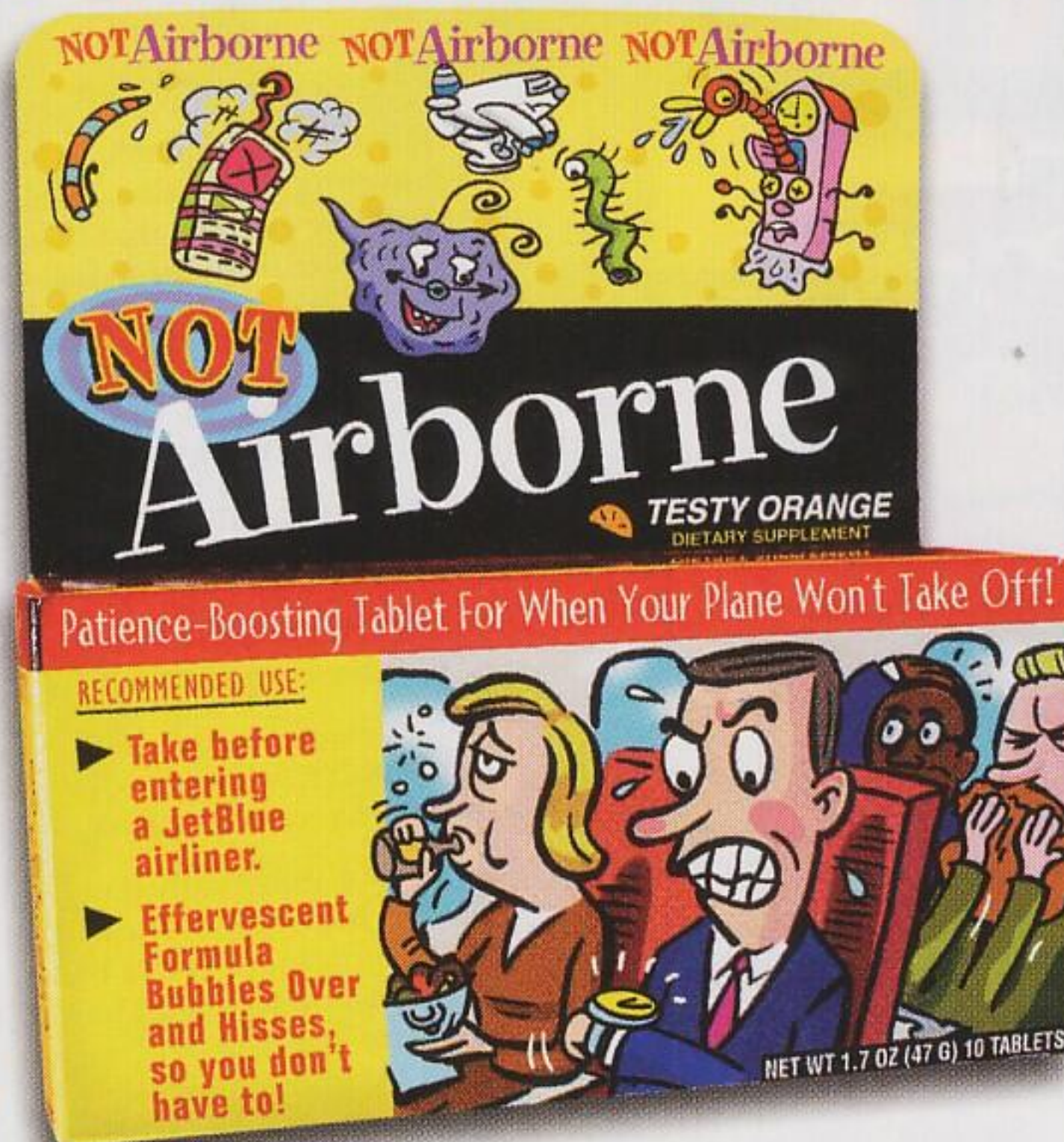


Jenkins always does a once-over on the guest bathroom before his visitors arrive.



Melvin's guest mistakes a 9-ounce clump of drain hair for a loofah.

PRODUCTS INSPIRED BY
CURRENT EVENTS



COMIC BOOK CHARACTER OR
FREQUENT GUEST ON AIR AMERICA?

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Markos Moulitsas of the Daily Kos | 4 Arion the Immortal | 7 Melanie Sloan of C.R.E.W. |
| 2 Asbestos Lady | 5 Atrios of the Blog Eschaton | 8 Gravlex Med |
| 3 Dittohead Mark Luther | 6 The Black Panther | 9 Senator Zo Howler |

(ANSWERS: 2, 4, 6 and 8 are comic book characters — all the rest are frequent guests on Air America!)

DID JAMES CAMERON FIND THE
ACTUAL TOMB OF CHRIST'S FAMILY?

YES!

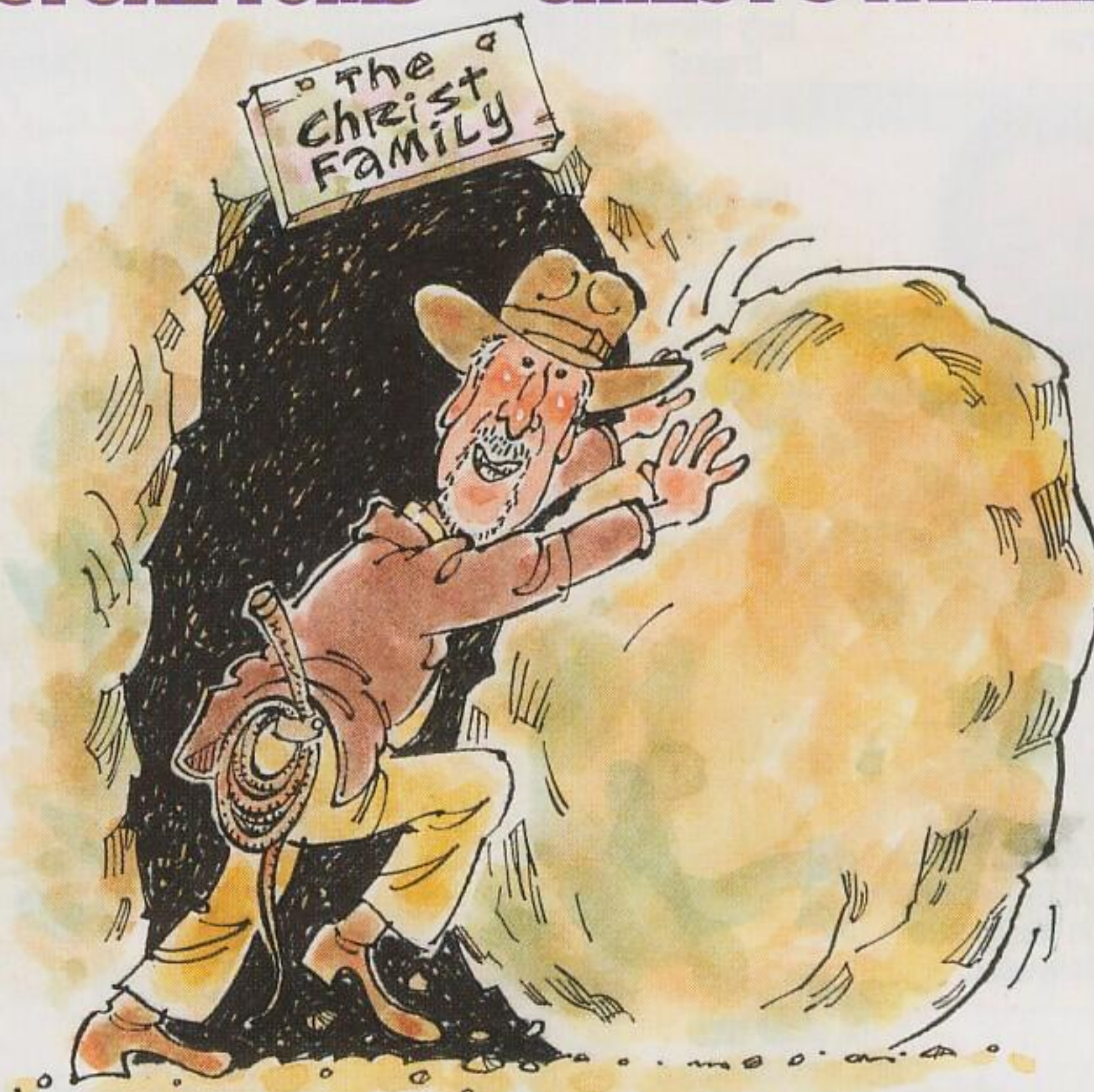
Like Lazarus, the Jesus phenomena did seem to miraculously bring Cameron's career back from the dead.

1 Corinthians 15:7 states: "After that, he (Christ) was seen of James; then of all the apostles." Pretty straightforward prophecy, if you ask us.

First there were two black coaches in the Super Bowl, then Martin Scorsese won the Oscar, and these historical coincidences always seem to happen in threes.

The DVD got 4½ stars on the Discovery Channel Store website, which is good enough for us.

There was a wristband found inside that said "What Would I Do?"



NO!

Scripture never mentions any "Uncle Irving."

We know from *The Da Vinci Code* that Mary Magdalene is buried in France.

The site isn't listed in *1,000 Places to See Before You Die*, which you'd think it would be.

Each casket is clearly stamped with the mortuary's website.

One of the bodies is indeed "Jesus," but the surname looks like "Gonzalez."

He is not alone

AN ABC FAMILY ORIGINAL SERIES

KYLE XY

ALL NEW SEASON

© ABC Family

season premiere june 11
mondays at 8/7c

KyleXY.com

abc family
a new kind of family



I'm Richard Belzer! I was a famous stand-up comic. Now I'm an actor on this series!

I'm Ice-T! I was a famous rapper. Now I'm an actor on this series!

I'm Mariska Hargitay! My mom was the famous film starlet, Jayne Mansfield, now I'm an actor on this series!

I'm Christopher Meloni and he's Dann Florek! We weren't famous. We're just solid, dependable actors!

We're like "freaks" on this show!

I'm Captain Croak-em! I head an elite Special Victims Unit that investigates and prosecutes sexually oriented crimes – gruesome sex, gang rape, bizarre ritual killings! On any given day we deal with more twisted weirdoes than Howard Stern's call screener!

Everything that's too gross for the gang at *Lewd & Disorder* or too repulsive for the boys at *Lewd & Disorder: Criminal Malcontent* they toss in our direction! Battered women, child molestation, father-daughter sex. Critics say this is the toughest watch on TV. With the exception, of course, of Ian Ziering swiveling his way through *Dancing With The Stars*!

All this horror and perversion is taking a toll on our personal lives! Many women have pretty flowers at home. I have a bouquet made up of yellow crime scene tape! If a waiter offers me "battered fish," I cuff him and read him his rights! Before I have sex with a guy, I dust him for prints! God, I need a life!

I'm here to report a missing person!

Who's that?

Me!

But you're the Assistant DA!

Right. My career is missing! For years the first half hour of the show was the Law and the second half was the courtroom part. Now my part has been reduced to the line: "Chief, Let's go for Murder One!"

Lady, if you've got a beef about a missing career, take it to *Without A Trace*! They do that sort of thing!

GRRR...

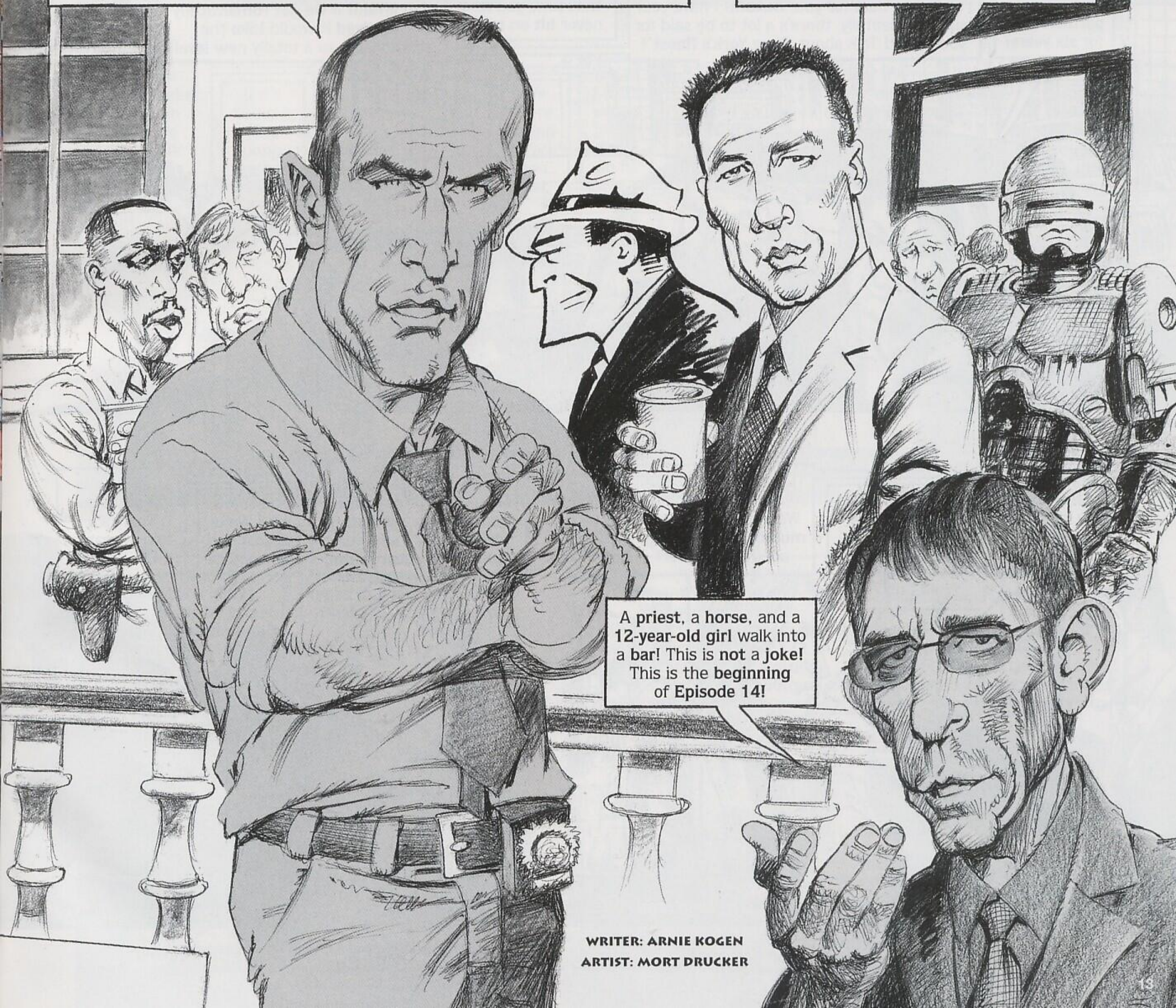
QT DRUCKER

LEWD & DISORDER

IT'S P.U.

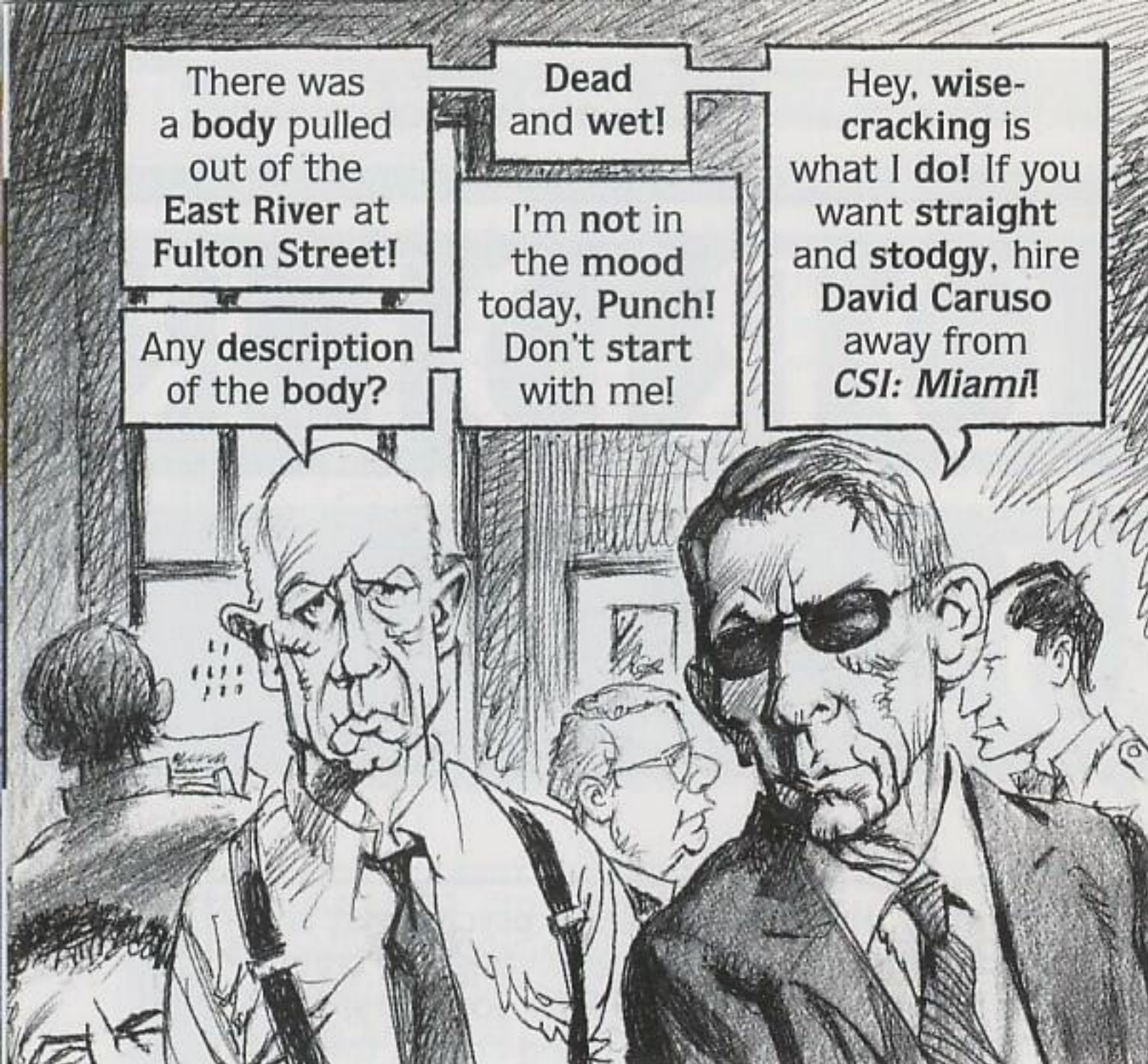
I hate pedophiles! I won't be happy until every sicko-pervert in New York City is behind bars! Actually, I won't be happy then, either. I don't "do" happy! Each week I seem to be spiraling into a deeper depression! If you own the *Lewd & Disorder: It's P.U.* DVD set, check out the outtakes from season three, episode 6. I think I actually broke a smile in that one. Hang on to it. It's a collectors item! Still, every prime-time drama needs a hunk and I'm the designated hunk on this show. Okay, so I'm not exactly Dr. McSteamy on *Grey's Anatomy* or Matthew Fox on *Lost*, but, in the world of detectives, I kick the @\$% out of, say, *Monk*!

I'm Dr. Hung, the forensic psychiatrist and staff shrink! My job is analyzing the creeps and filth that populate New York City! More horrors than a human being should tolerate — sodomy, child abuse, school shootings! But the worst ever was last night, I had to sit through a Knicks game! The horror! The horror! Give me a break, man!



A priest, a horse, and a 12-year-old girl walk into a bar! This is not a joke! This is the beginning of Episode 14!

WRITER: ARNIE KOGEN
ARTIST: MORT DRUCKER



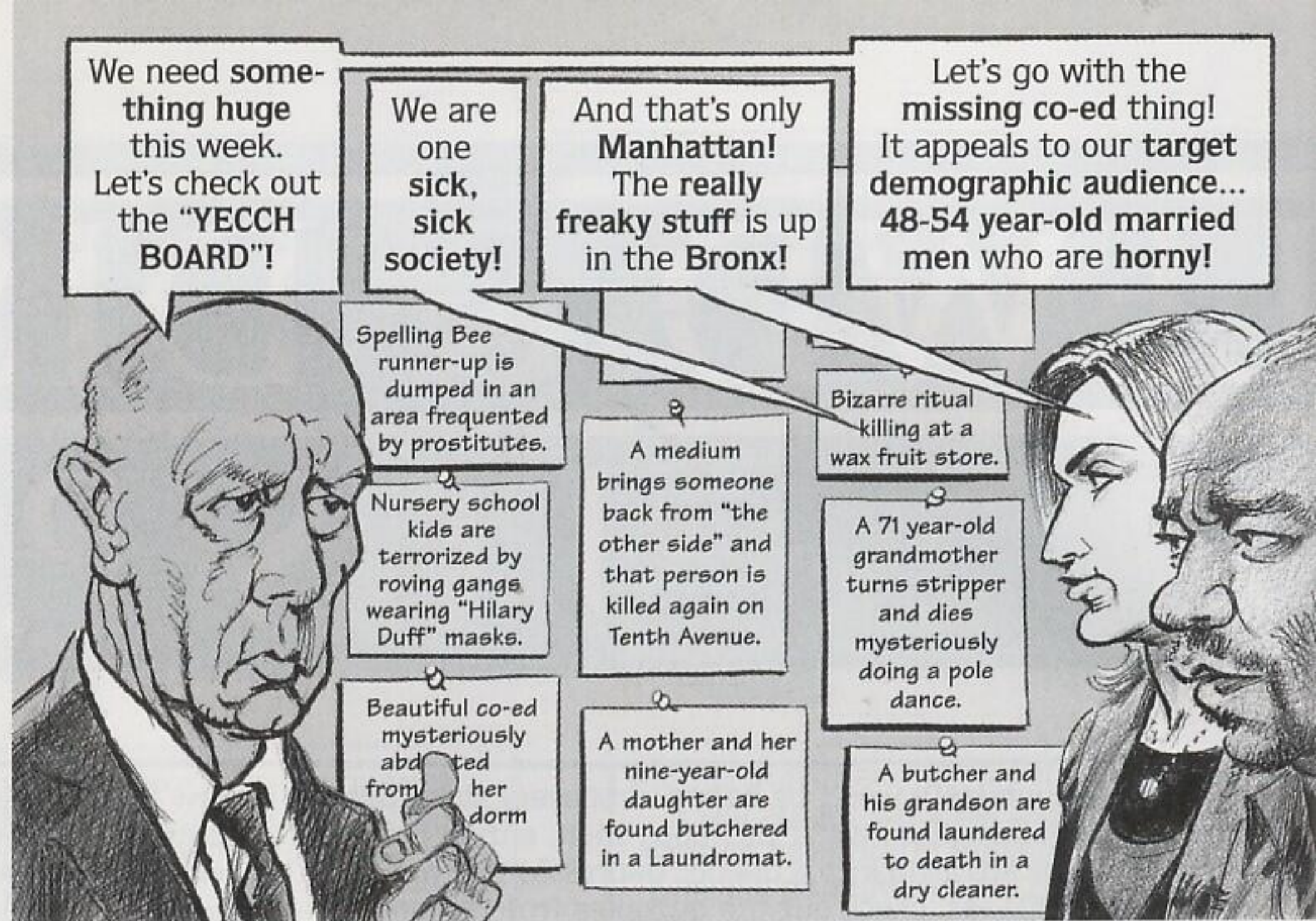
There was a body pulled out of the East River at Fulton Street!

Any description of the body?

Dead and wet!

I'm not in the mood today, Punch! Don't start with me!

Hey, wise-cracking is what I do! If you want straight and stodgy, hire David Caruso away from *CSI: Miami*!



We need something huge this week. Let's check out the "YECCH BOARD"!

We are one sick, sick society!

And that's only Manhattan! The really freaky stuff is up in the Bronx!

Let's go with the missing co-ed thing! It appeals to our target demographic audience... 48-54 year-old married men who are horny!

Spelling Bee runner-up is dumped in an area frequented by prostitutes.

Nursery school kids are terrorized by roving gangs wearing "Hillary Duff" masks.

Beautiful co-ed mysteriously abducted from her dorm

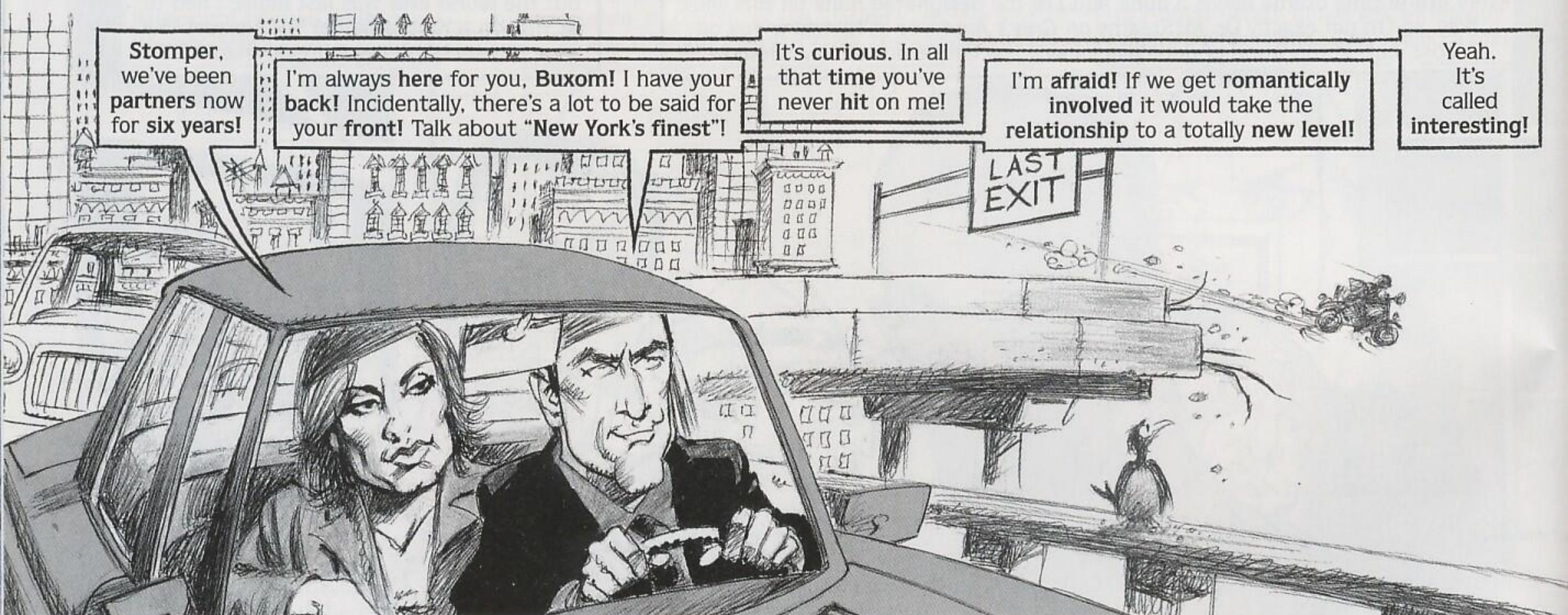
A medium brings someone back from "the other side" and that person is killed again on Tenth Avenue.

A mother and her nine-year-old daughter are found butchered in a Laundromat.

Bizarre ritual killing at a wax fruit store.

A 71 year-old grandmother turns stripper and dies mysteriously doing a pole dance.

A butcher and his grandson are found laundered to death in a dry cleaner.



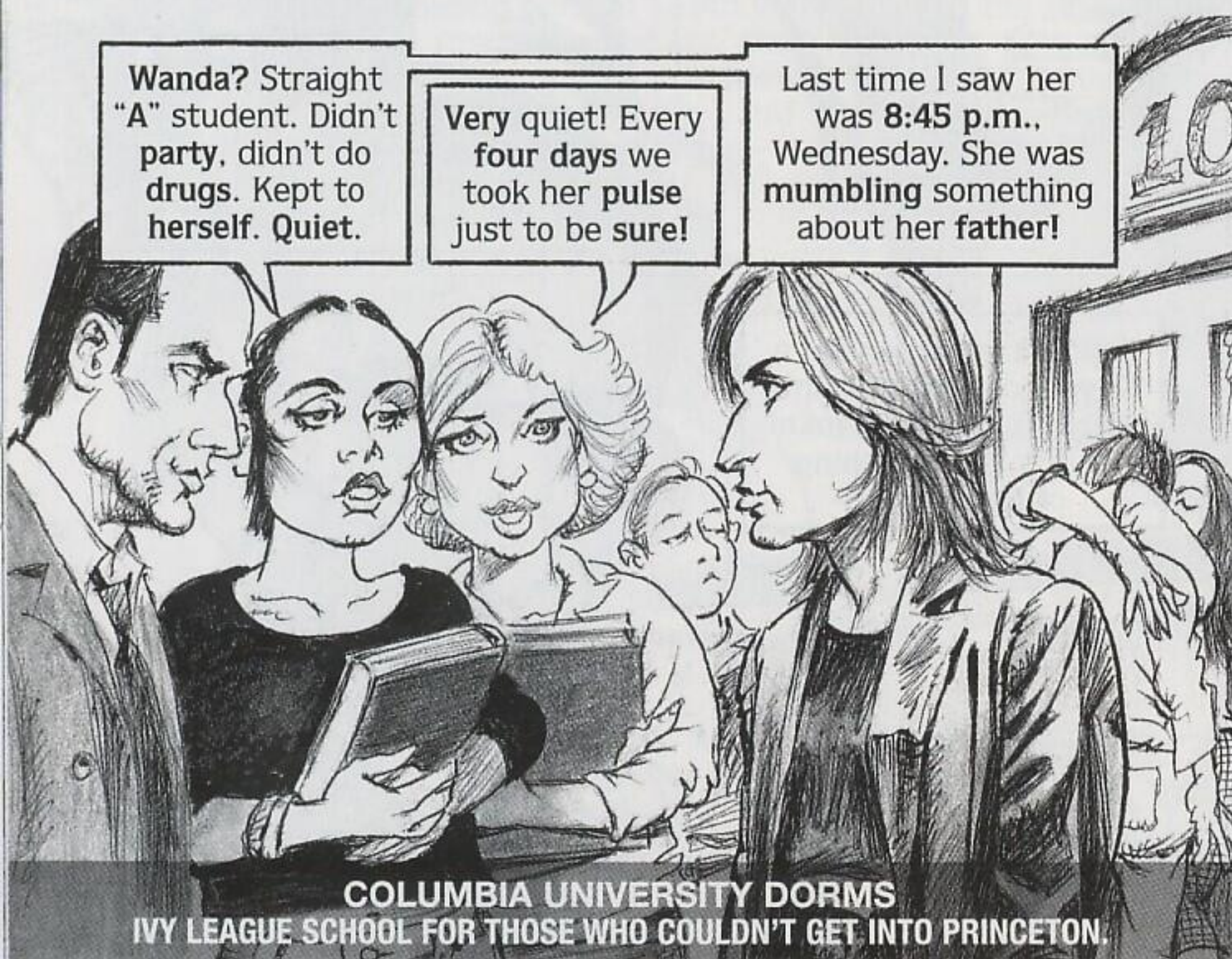
Stomper, we've been partners now for six years!

I'm always here for you, Buxom! I have your back! Incidentally, there's a lot to be said for your front! Talk about "New York's finest"!

It's curious. In all that time you've never hit on me!

I'm afraid! If we get romantically involved it would take the relationship to a totally new level!

Yeah. It's called interesting!



Wanda? Straight "A" student. Didn't party, didn't do drugs. Kept to herself. Quiet.

Very quiet! Every four days we took her pulse just to be sure!

Last time I saw her was 8:45 p.m., Wednesday. She was mumbling something about her father!



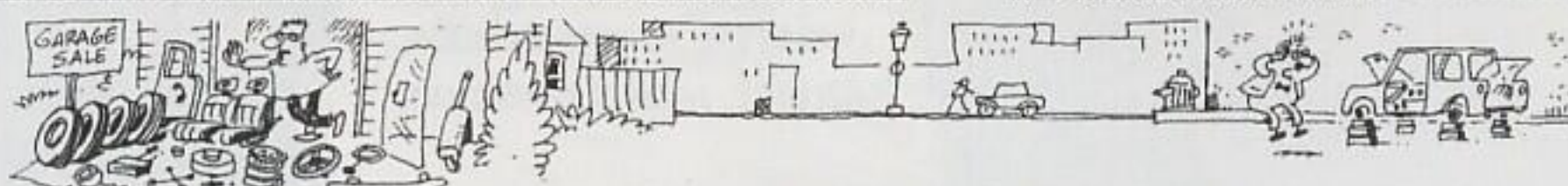
You sure you're not holding back info?

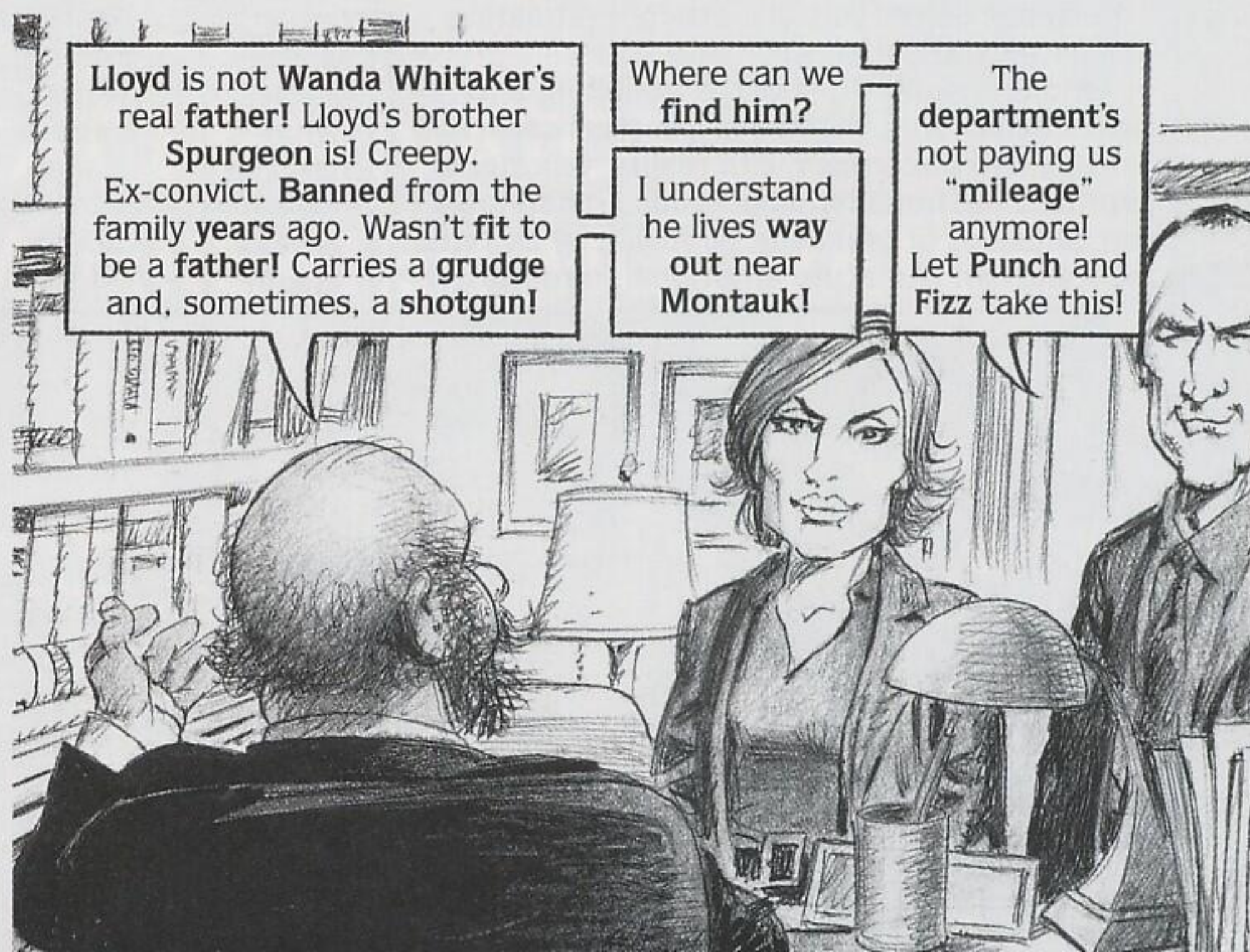
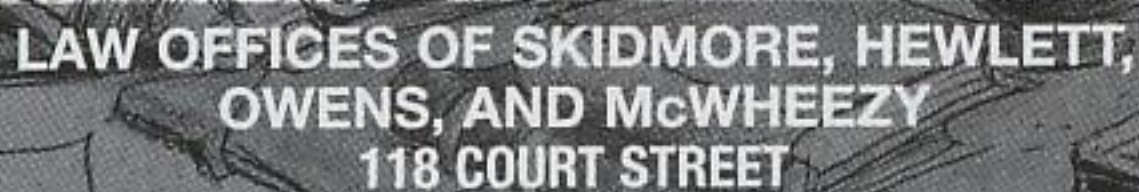
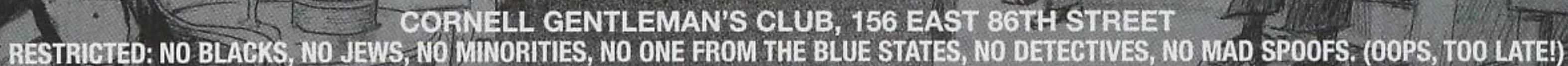
We wouldn't do that! Wanda was our best friend!

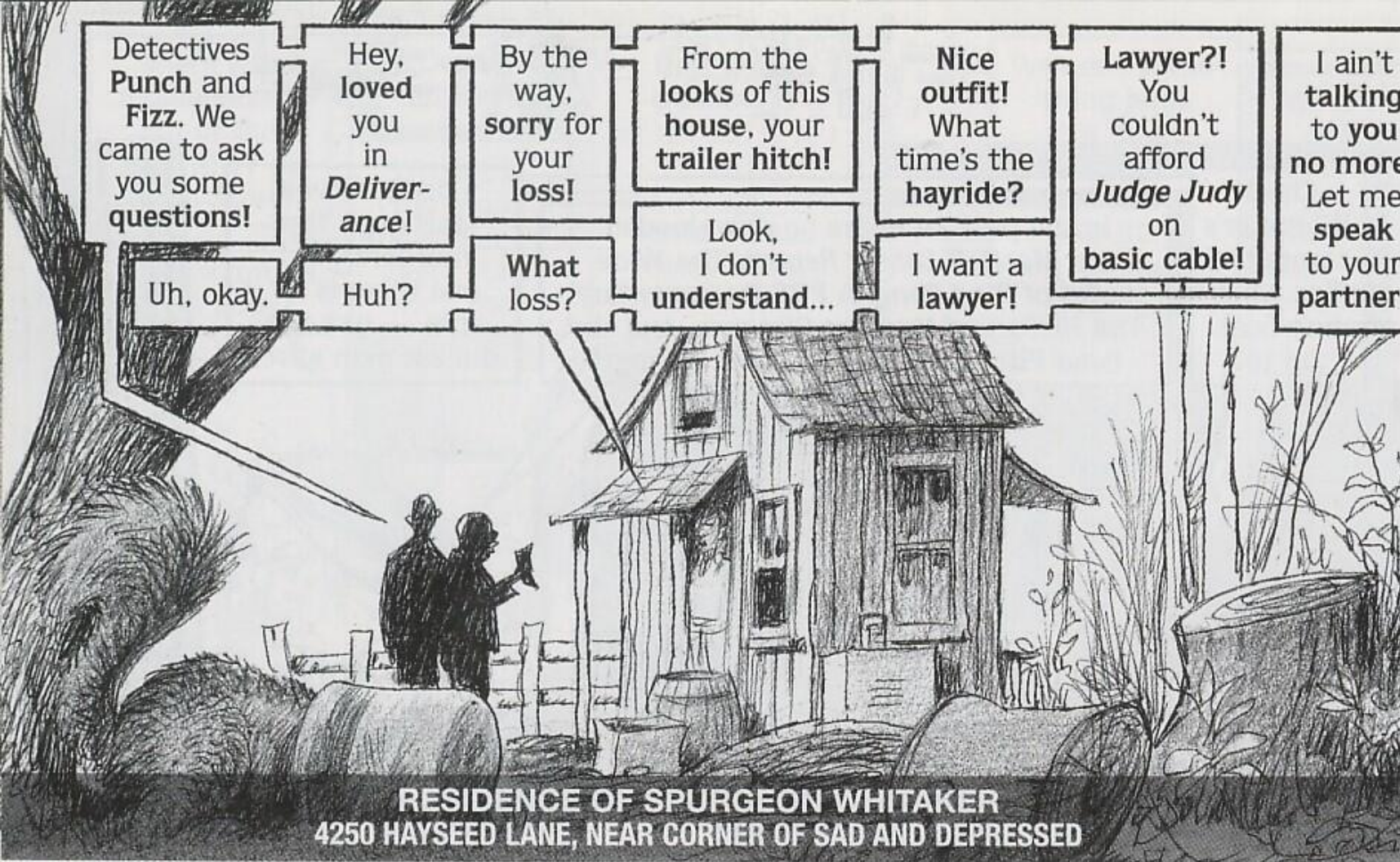
We loved her! We're devastated about this!

Oops, we gotta go! There's a kegger party at Phi Epsilon!

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY DORMS
IVY LEAGUE SCHOOL FOR THOSE WHO COULDN'T GET INTO PRINCETON.







Detectives
Punch and
Fizz. We
came to ask
you some
questions!

Hey,
loved
you
in
*Deliver-
ance!*

By the
way,
sorry for
your
loss!

From the
looks of this
house, your
trailer hitch!

Nice
outfit!
What
time's the
hayride?

Lawyer?!
You
couldn't
afford
Judge Judy
on
basic cable!

I ain't
talking
to you
no more!
Let me
speak
to your
partner!

*It ain't cool with me
That you fool with me
We don't f#\$%in' trust ya
We'll f#\$%in' bust ya
So give it up, dude
We ain't in the mood
Don't f#\$%in' lie
Or alibi
You lie, you die
'Cause
This ain't CSI!*

Enough!!!
She's in
the cellar
closet!

Uh, okay.

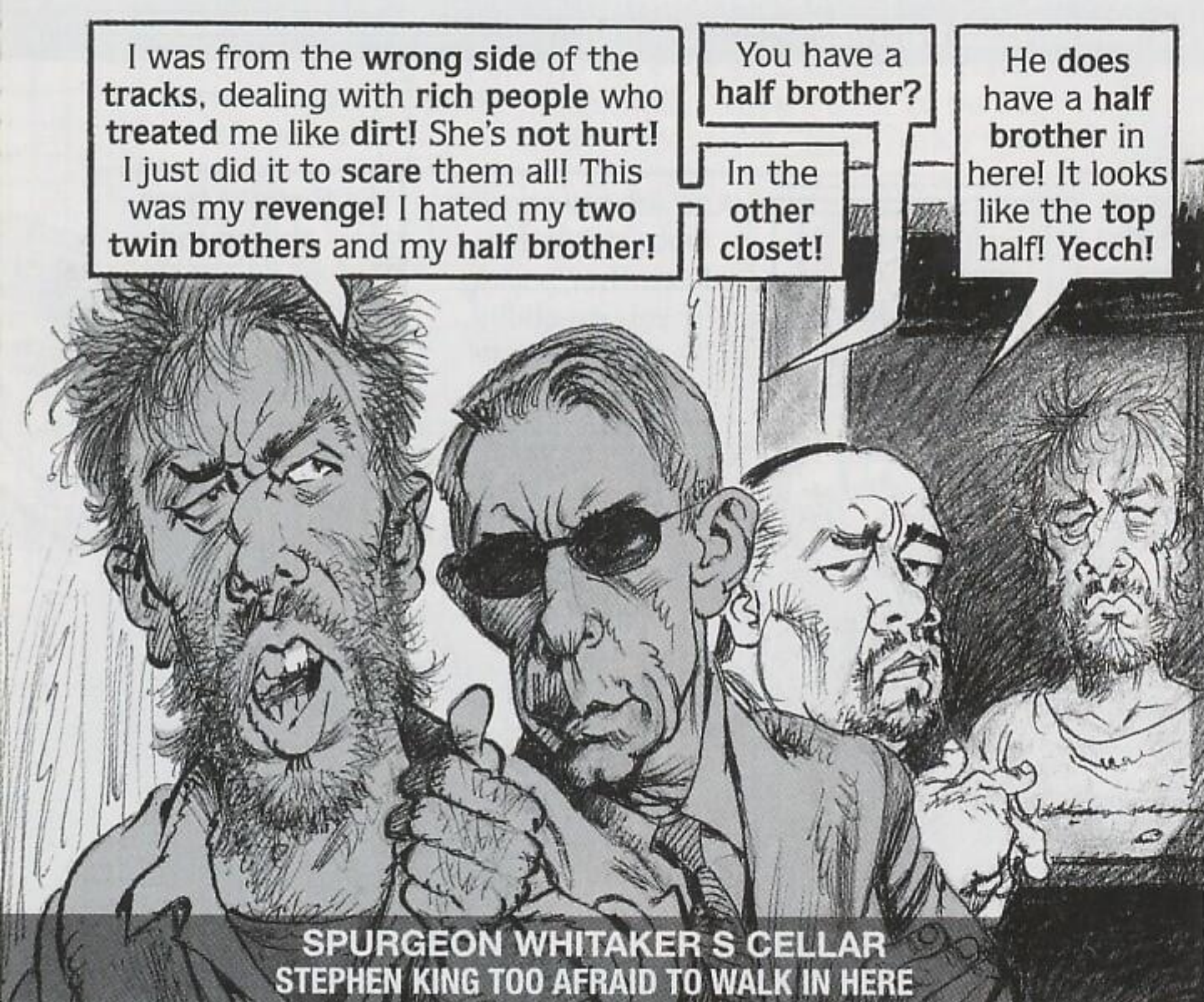
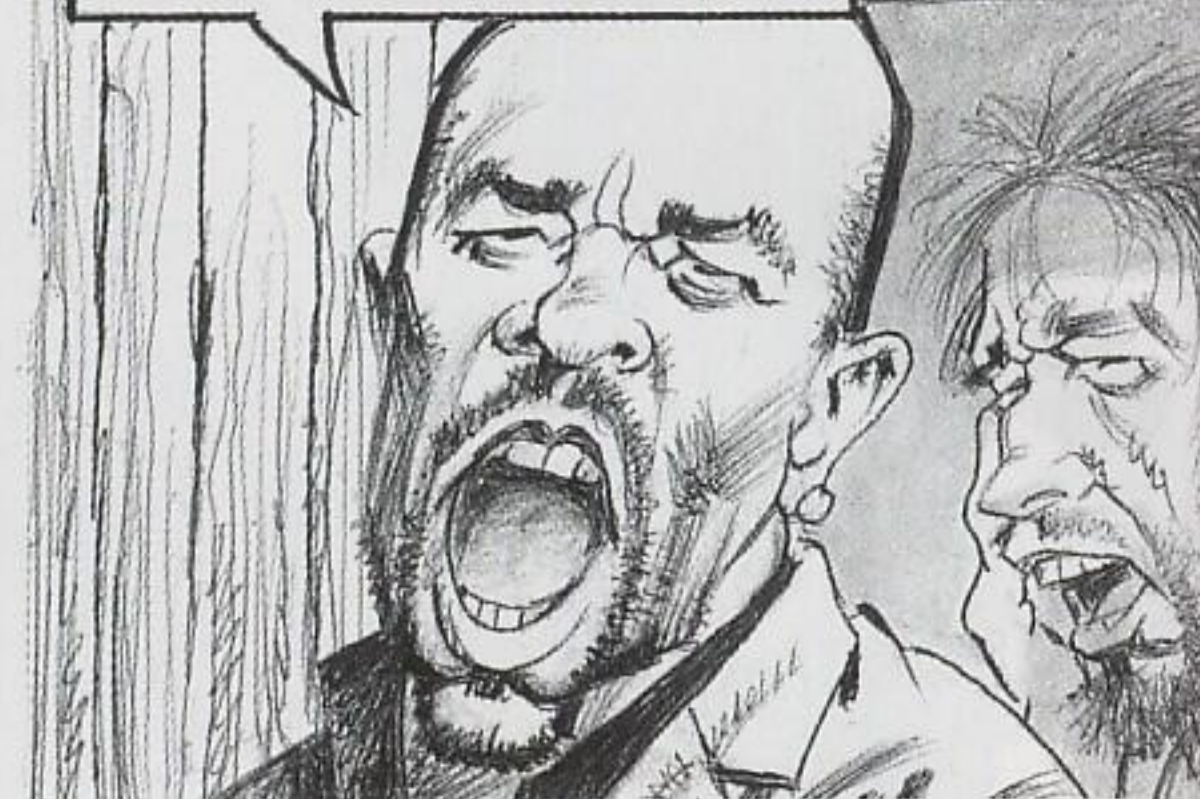
Huh?

What
loss?

Look,
I don't
understand...

I want a
lawyer!

RESIDENCE OF SPURGEON WHITAKER
4250 HAYSEED LANE, NEAR CORNER OF SAD AND DEPRESSED



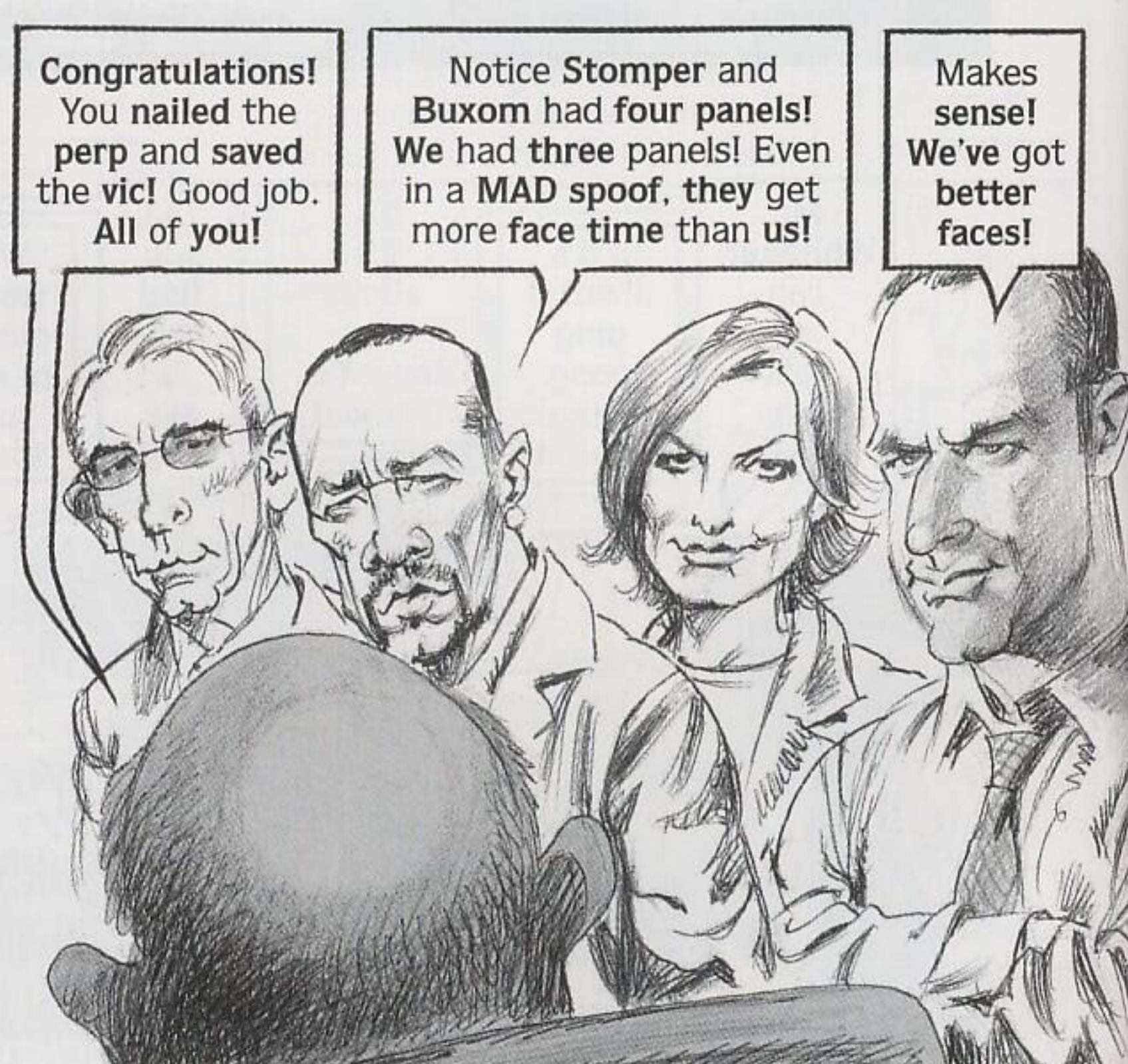
I was from the **wrong** side of the
tracks, dealing with rich people who
treated me like dirt! She's not hurt!
I just did it to scare them all! This
was my revenge! I hated my two
twin brothers and my half brother!

You have a
half brother?

In the
other
closet!

He does
have a half
brother in
here! It looks
like the top
half! Yecch!

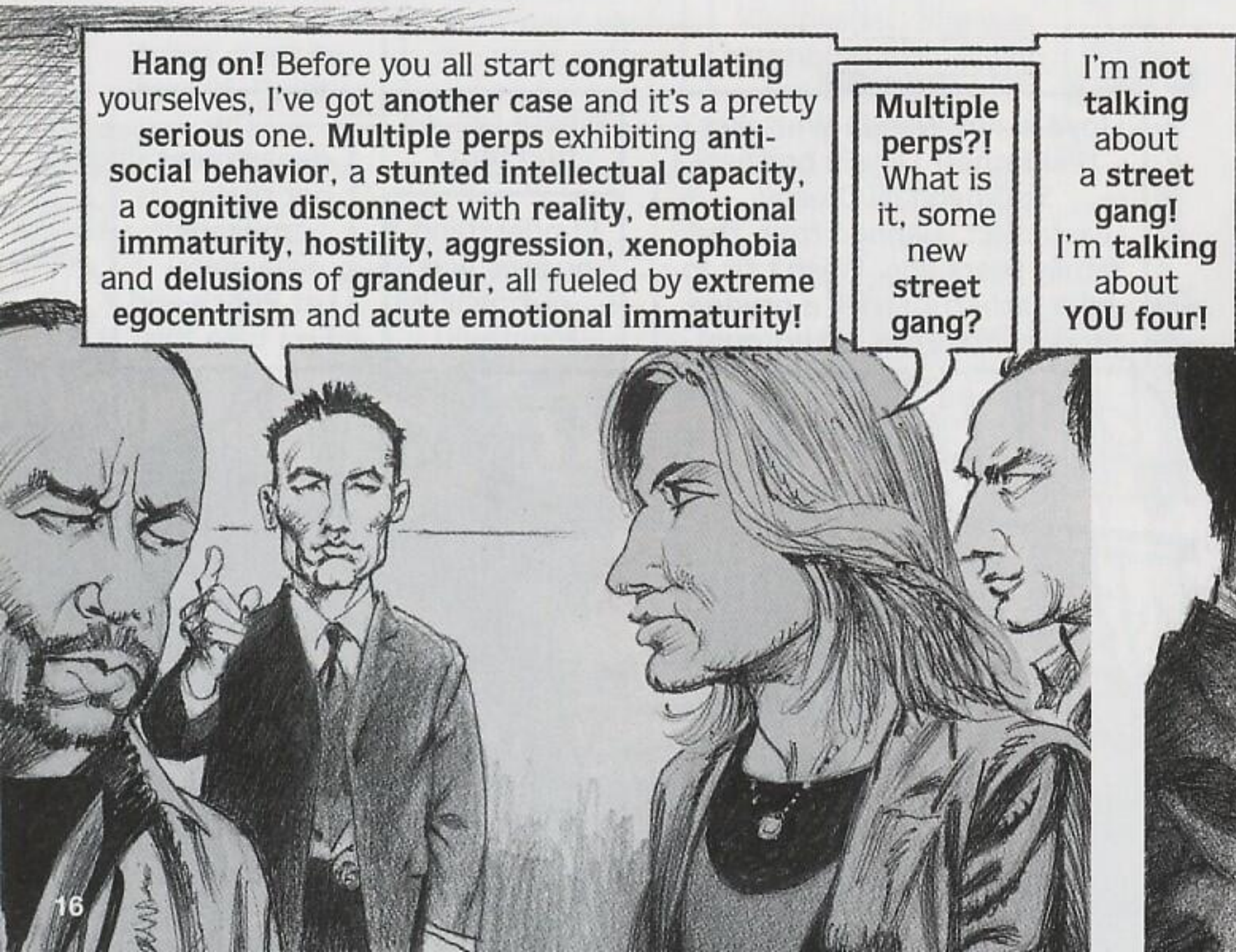
SPURGEON WHITAKER'S CELLAR
STEPHEN KING TOO AFRAID TO WALK IN HERE



Congratulations!
You nailed the
perp and saved
the vic! Good job.
All of you!

Notice Stomper and
Buxom had four panels!
We had three panels! Even
in a MAD spoof, they get
more face time than us!

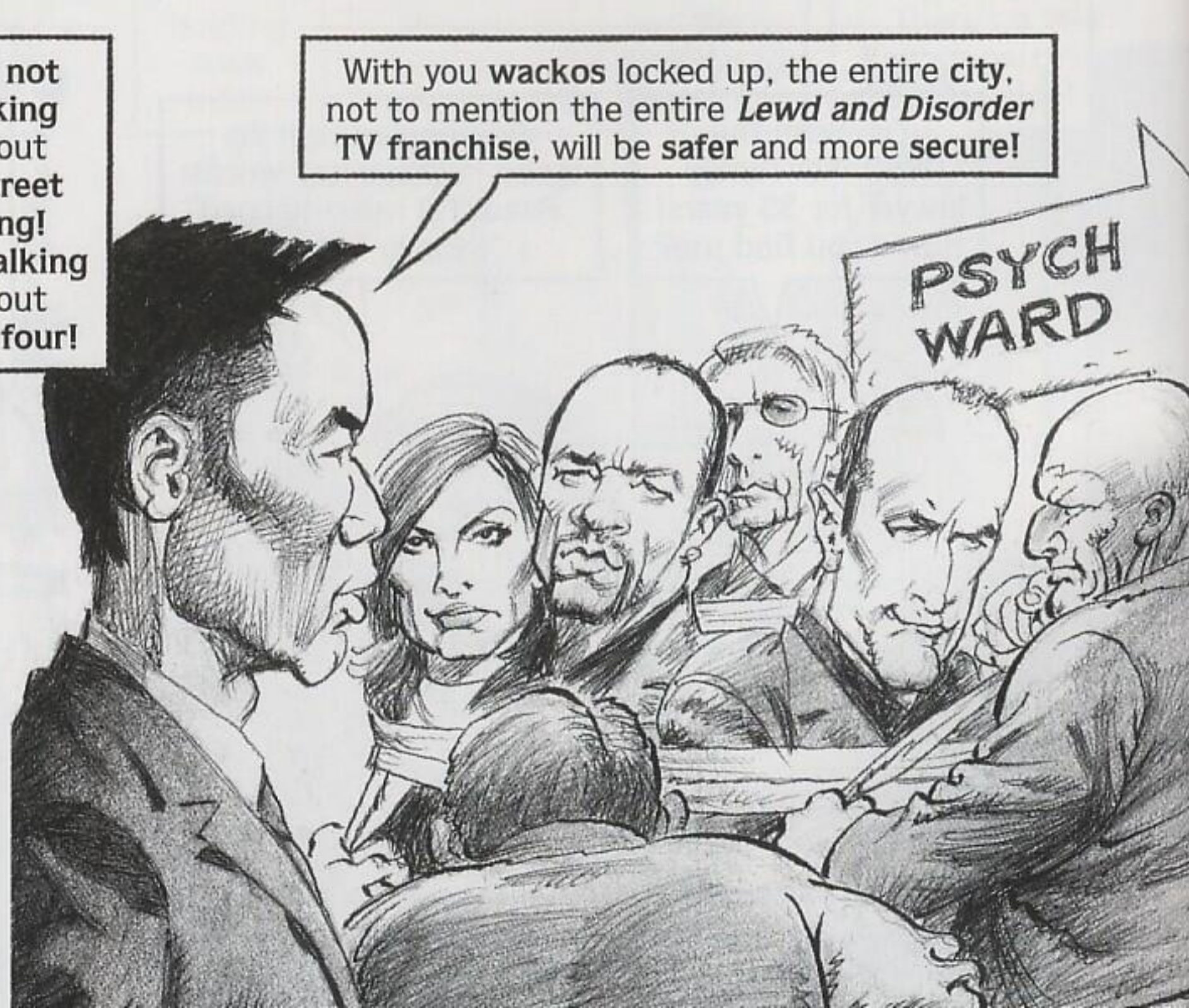
Makes
sense!
We've got
better
faces!



Hang on! Before you all start congratulating
yourselves, I've got **another** case and it's a pretty
serious one. **Multiple** perps exhibiting anti-
social behavior, a stunted intellectual capacity,
a cognitive disconnect with reality, emotional
immaturity, hostility, aggression, xenophobia
and delusions of grandeur, all fueled by extreme
egocentrism and acute emotional immaturity!

Multiple
perps?!
What is
it, some
new
street
gang?

I'm not
talking
about
a street
gang!
I'm talking
about
YOU four!



With you wackos locked up, the entire city,
not to mention the entire *Lewd and Disorder*
TV franchise, will be safer and more secure!

PSYCH
WARD

U.S. ARMY
RECRUITMENT CENTER



**PATRIOTISM IS A GREAT MOTIVATOR.
UNEMPLOYMENT IS A GREATER MOTIVATOR.**

There's stuck. And then there's being stuck in the Army,
which is a lot worse than being stuck in some podunk town without a job.

Military Recruiter, Sergeant Mike Gurnvey
with unemployed teenager, Raoul Martinez.



U.S. ARMY

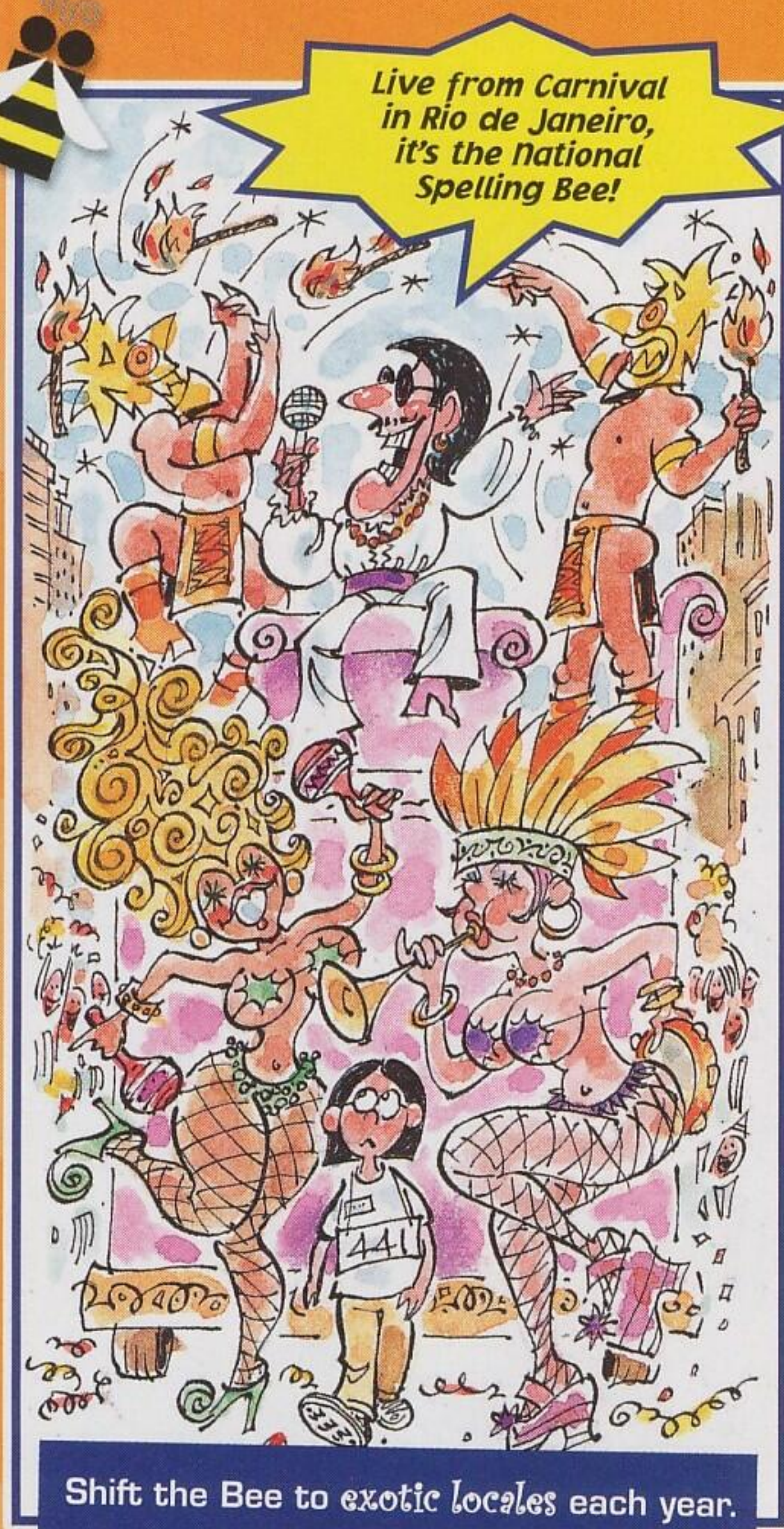
ARMY STUCK.

A MAD AD PARODY

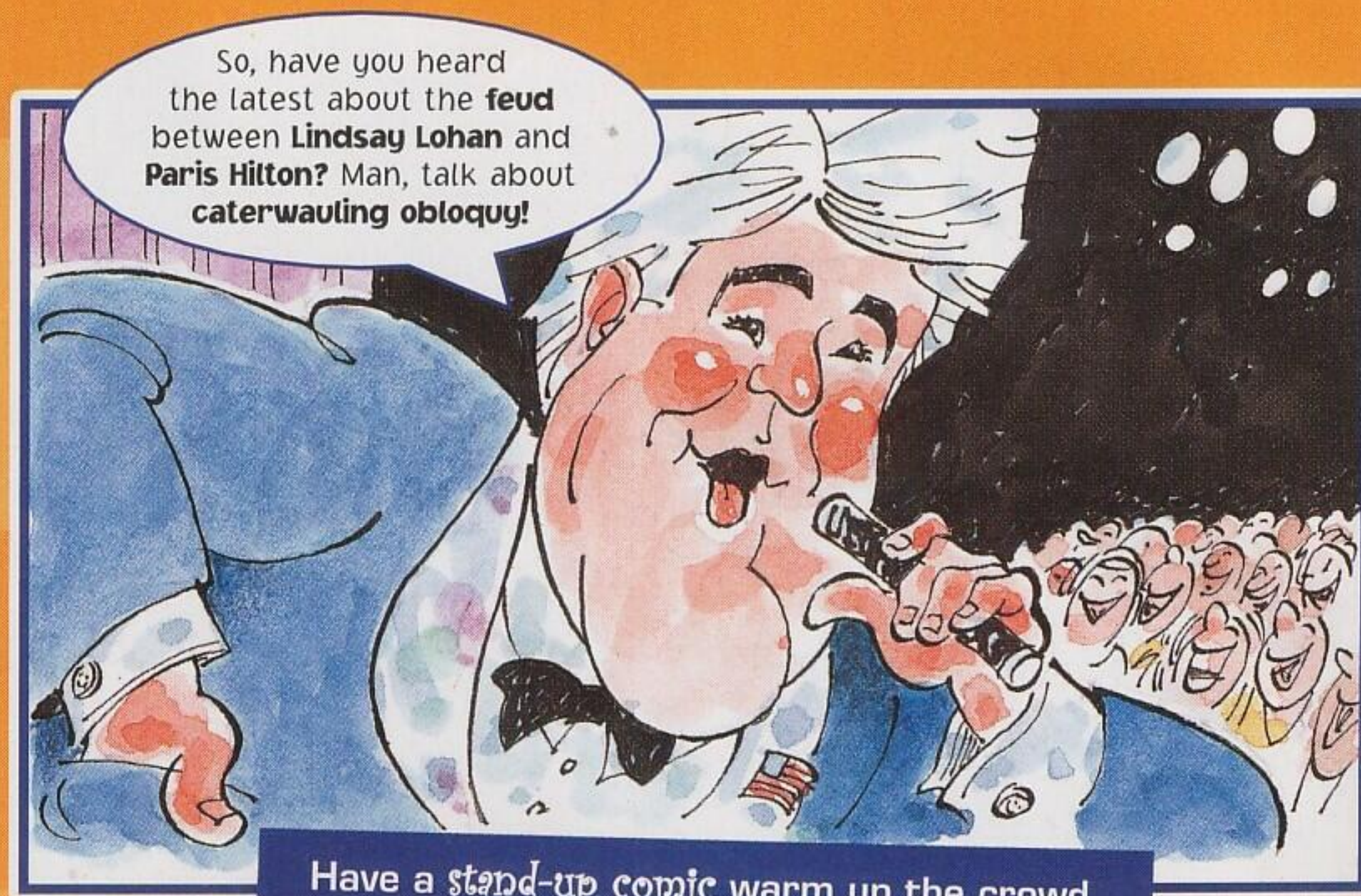
Question: what could be a bigger waste of time than learning to spell tens of thousands of words you'll never once use in your lifetime? Answer: watching the tragically nerdy youth of America attempting to spell them on network primetime! And since these nervous-breakdowns-waiting-to-happen put us to sleep faster than they can spell P-S-Y-C-H-O-T-H-E-R-A-P-Y, MAD'S come up with these...

10 WAYS TO LIVEN UP THE NATIONAL SPELLING BEE

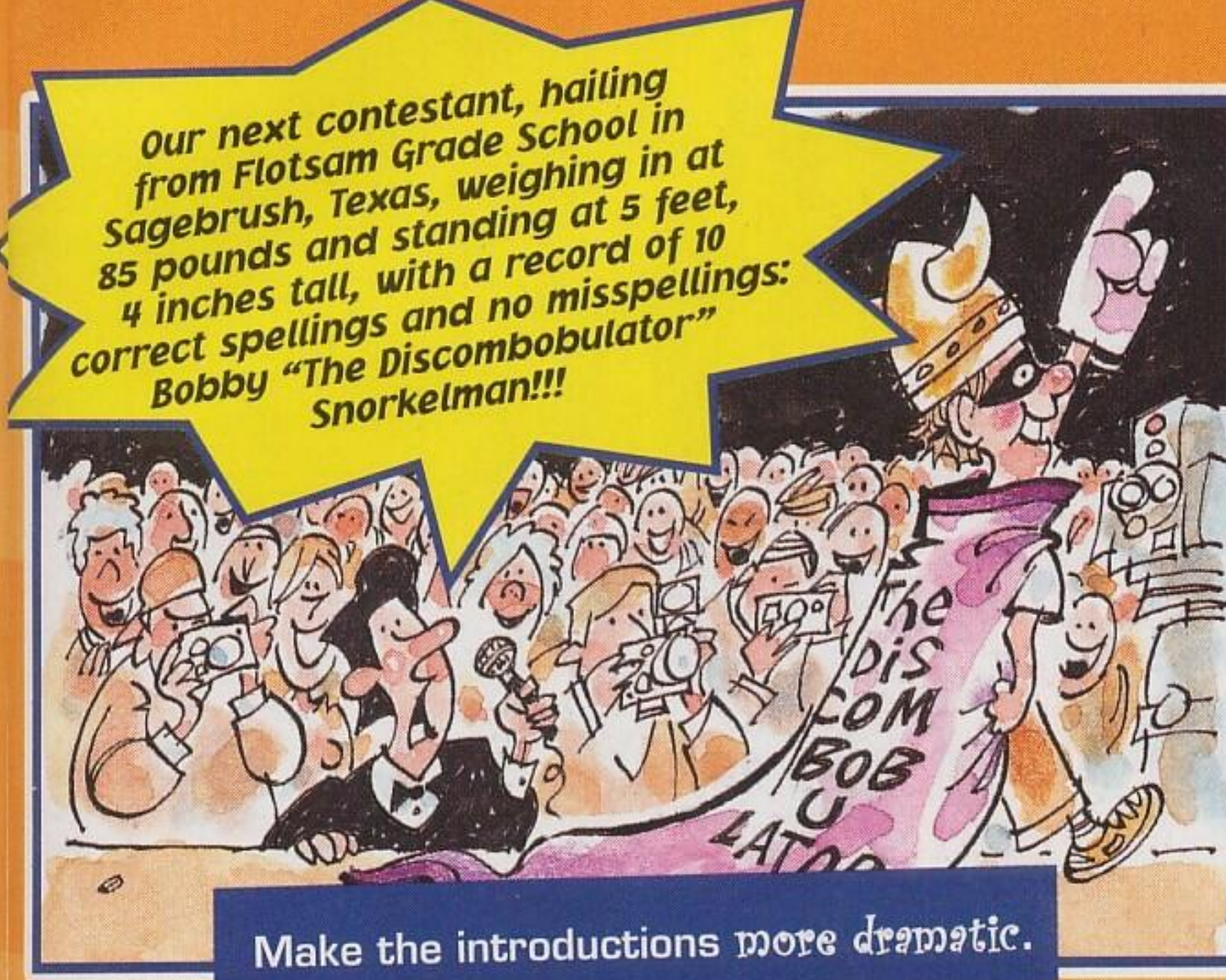
WRITER: JEFF KRUSE ARTIST: PAUL COKER



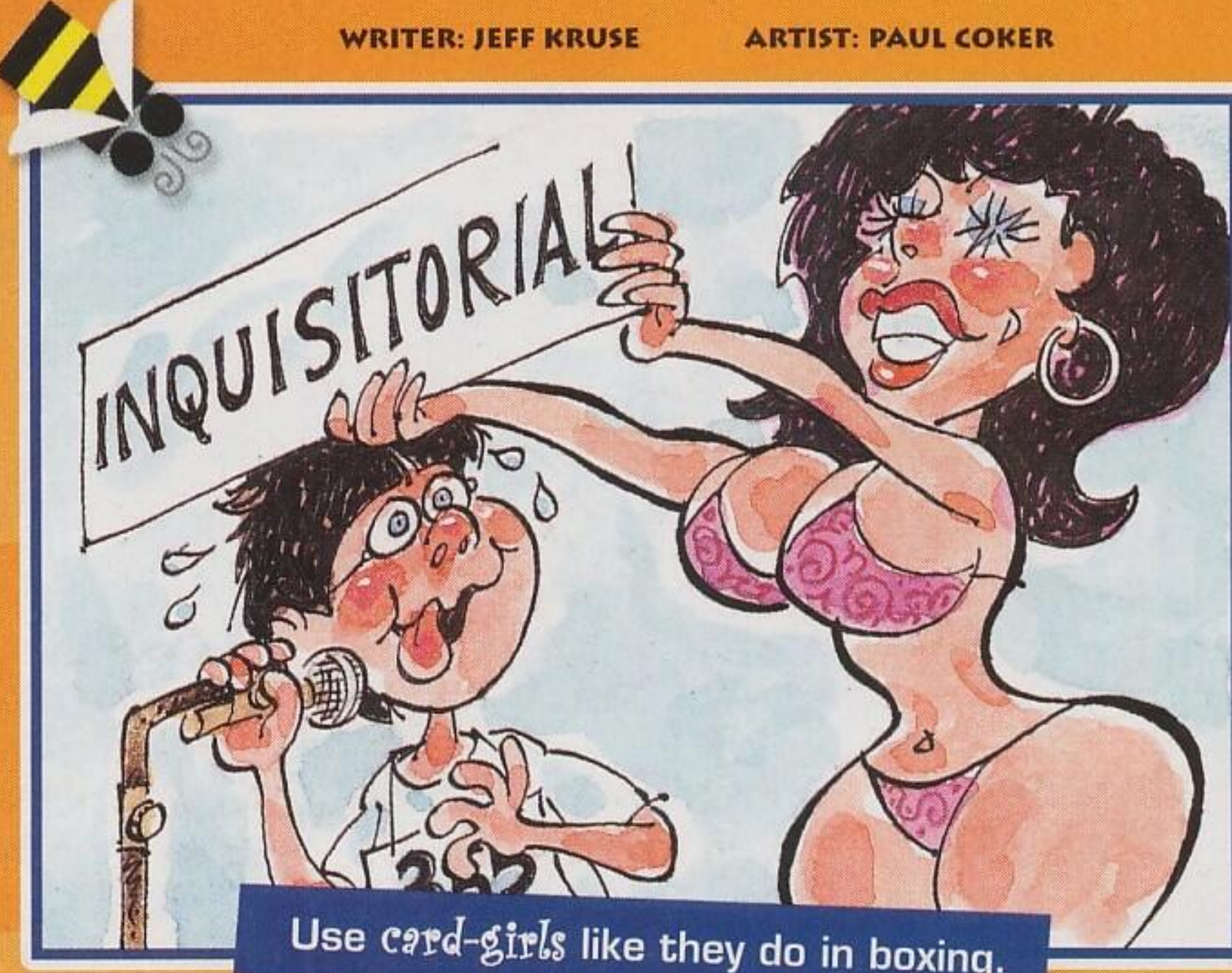
Shift the Bee to exotic locales each year.



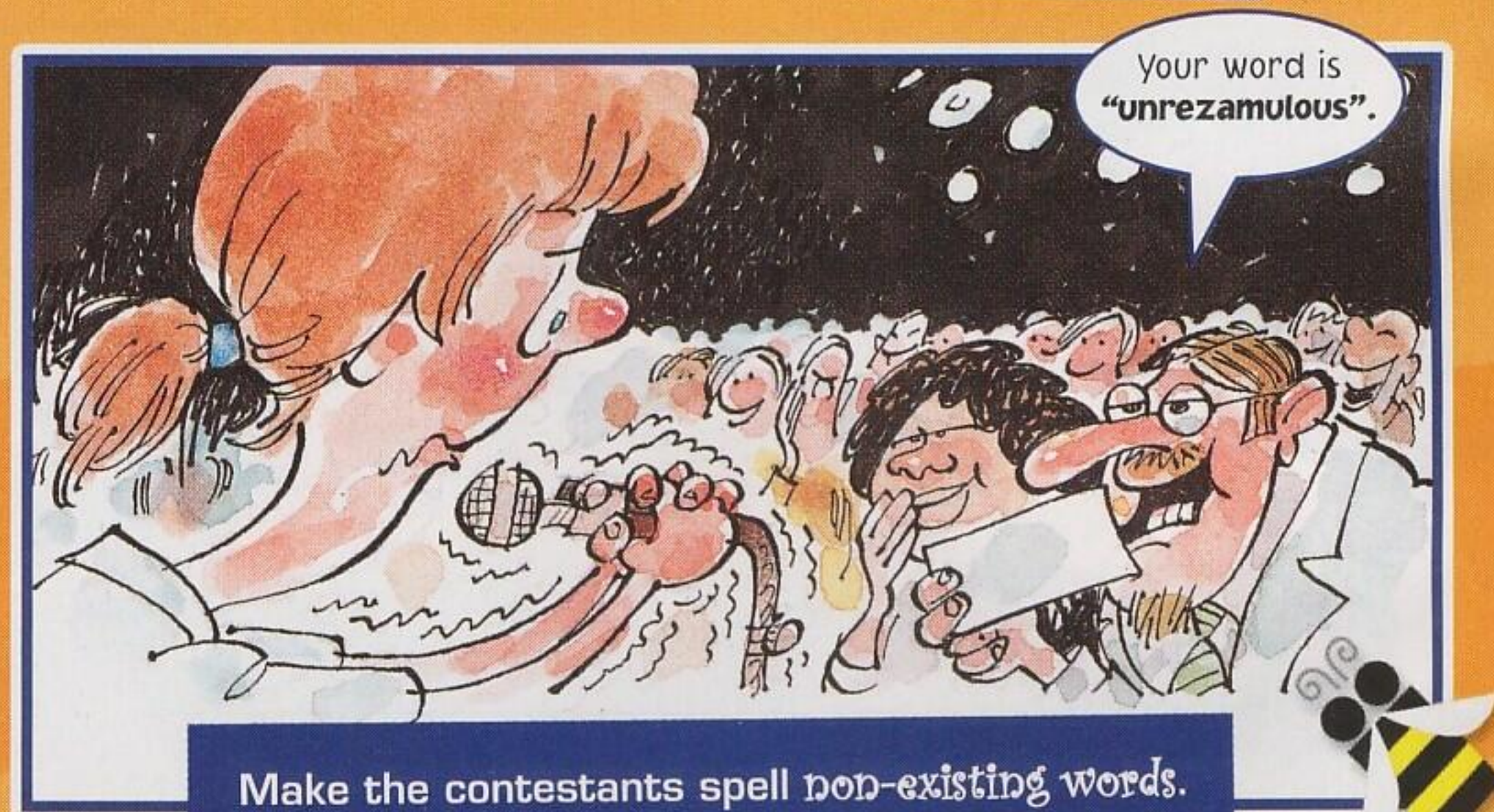
Have a stand-up comic warm up the crowd.



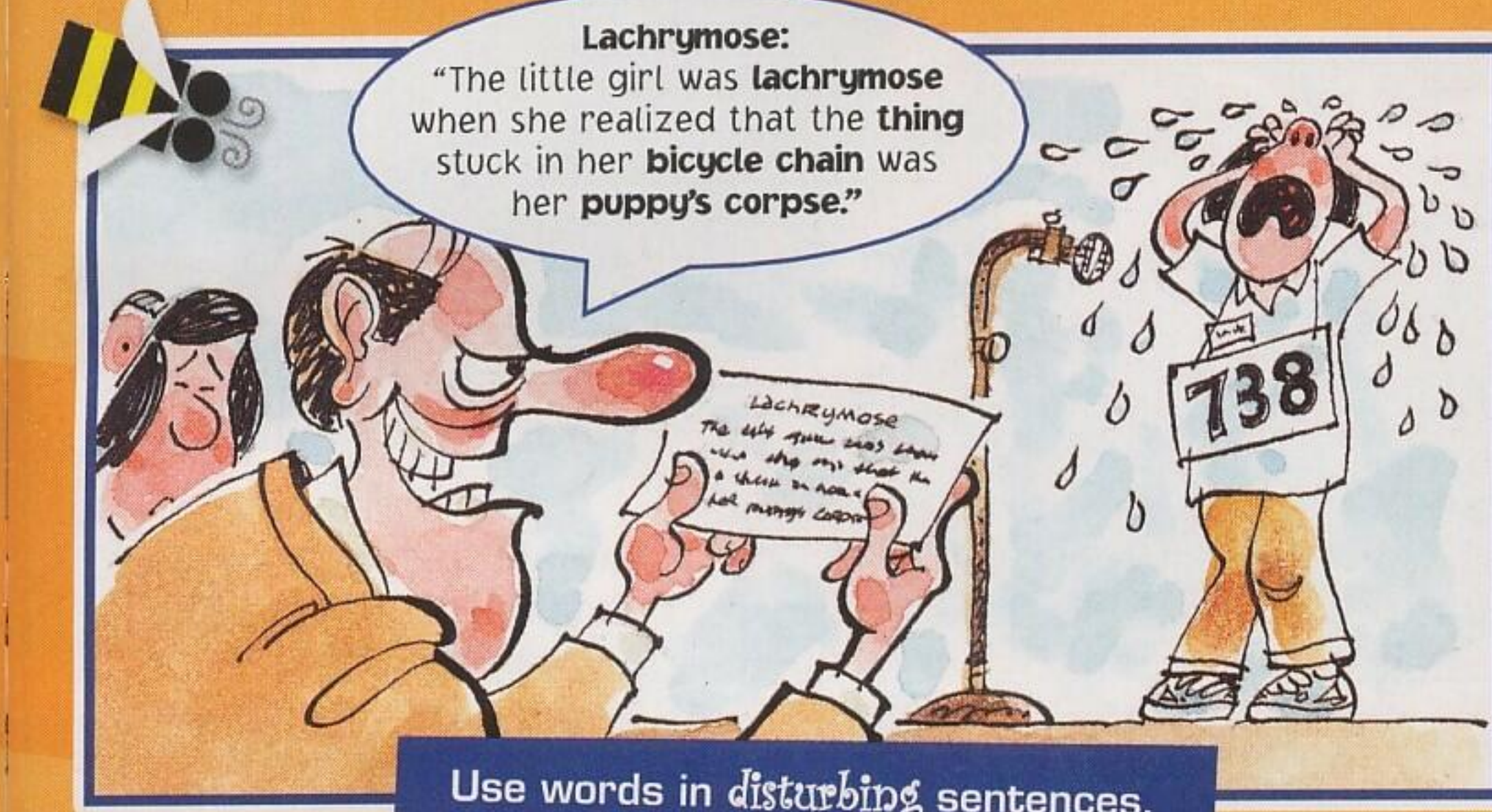
Make the introductions more dramatic.



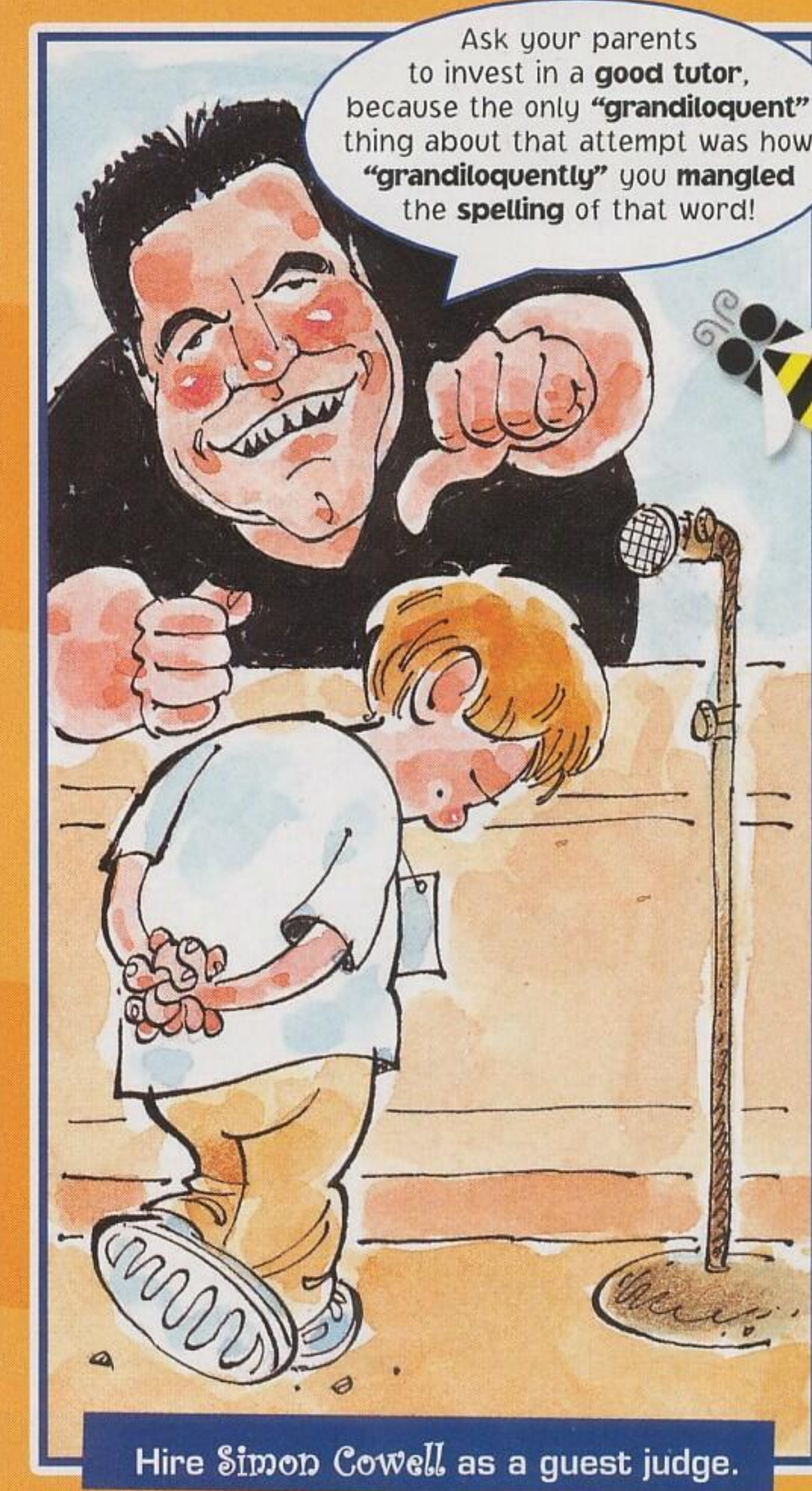
Use card-girls like they do in boxing.



Make the contestants spell non-existing words.



Use words in disturbing sentences.



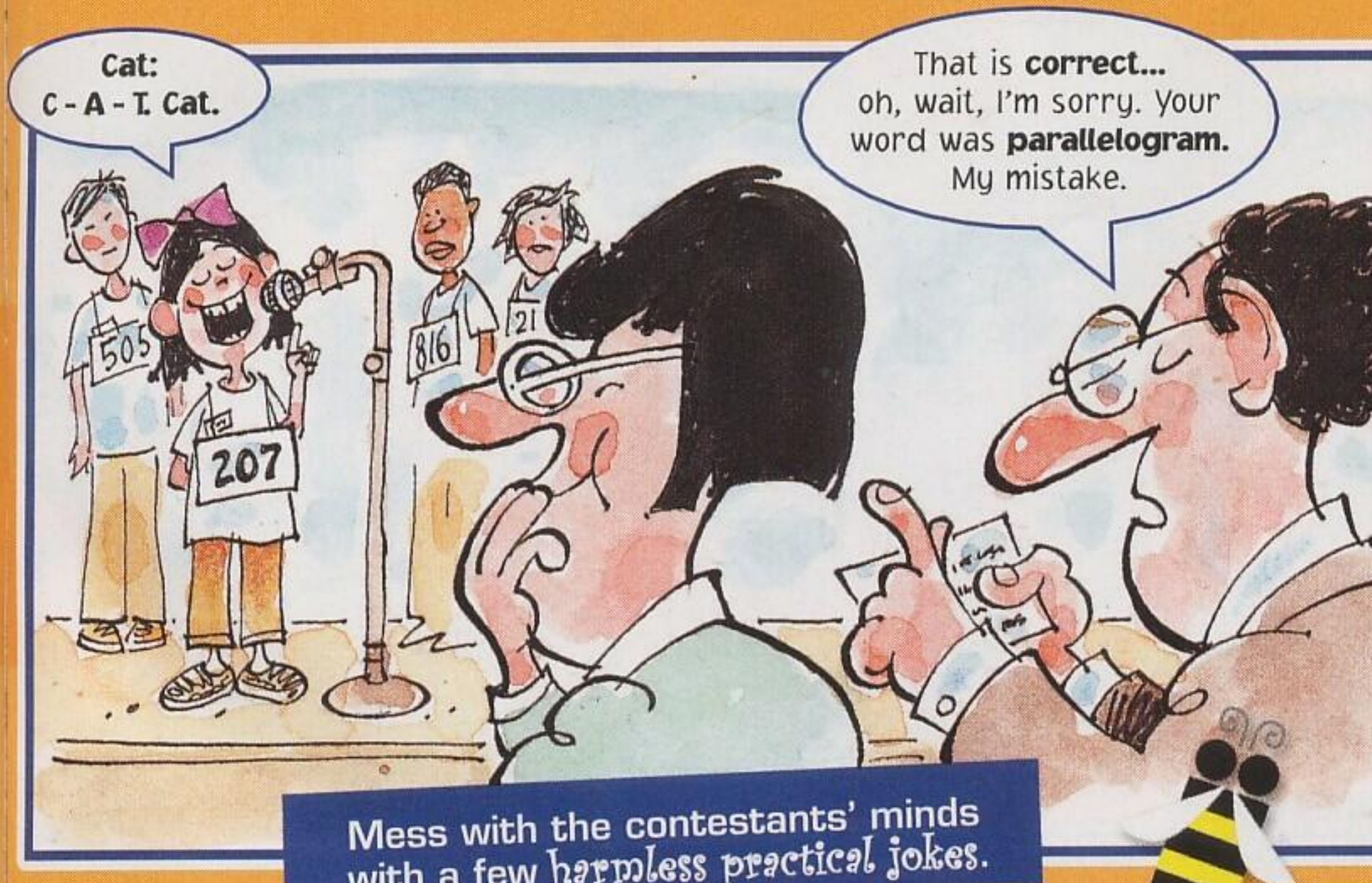
Hire Simon Cowell as a guest judge.



Make the kids spell the surnames of contestants from India.



Allow heckling.

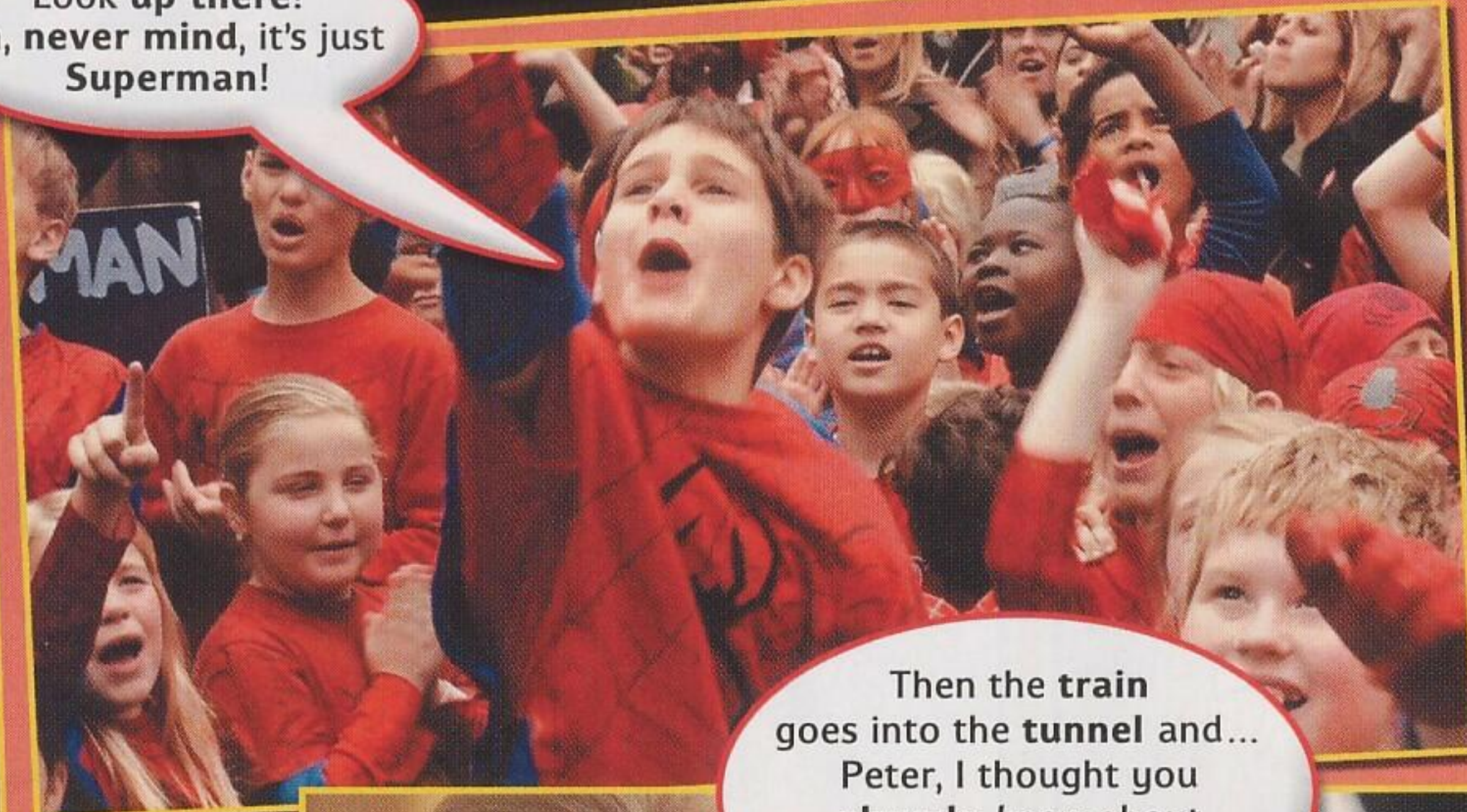


Mess with the contestants' minds with a few harmless practical jokes.

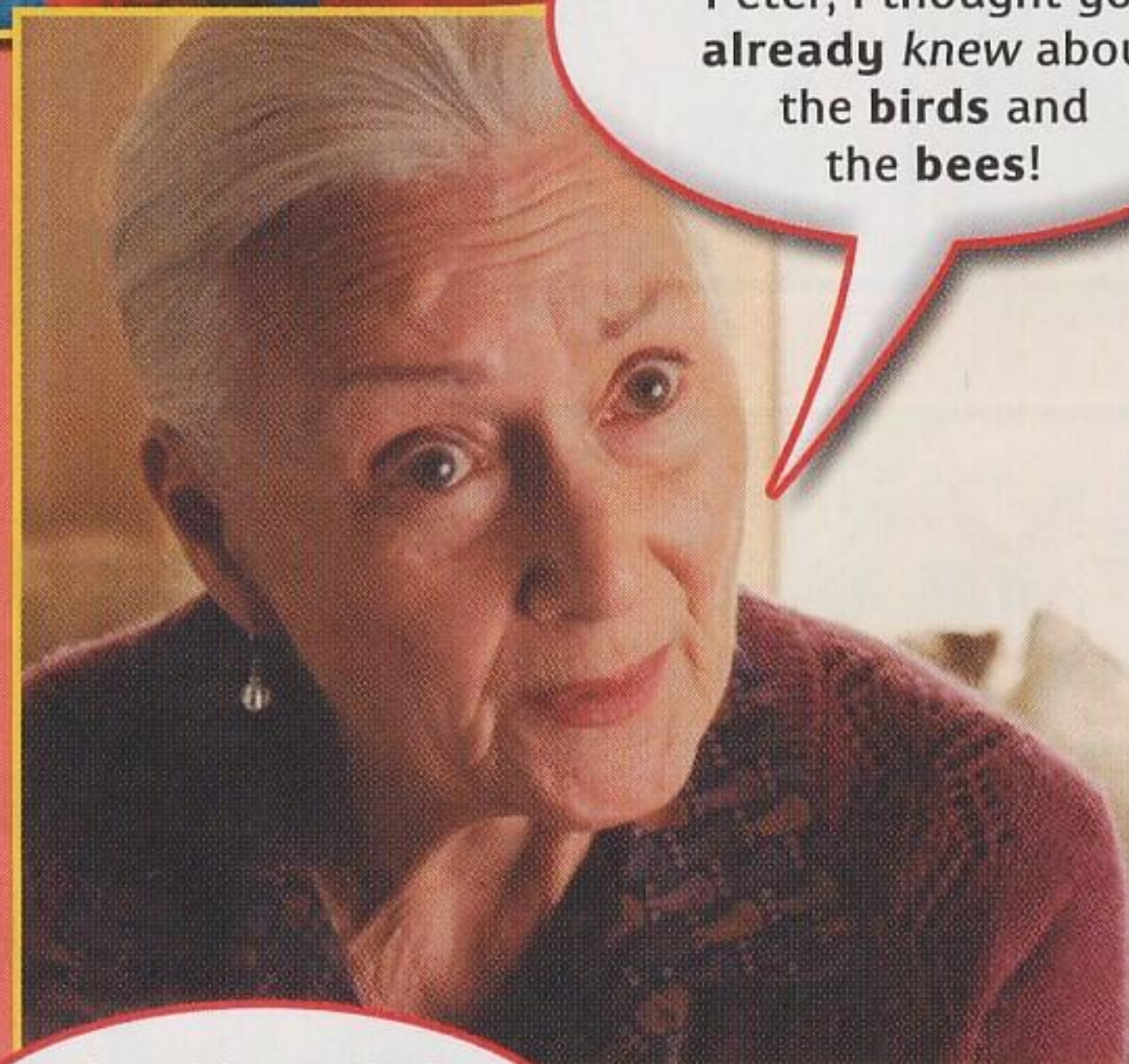


MAD'S VENOMOUS OUTTAKES FROM SPIDER-MAN 3

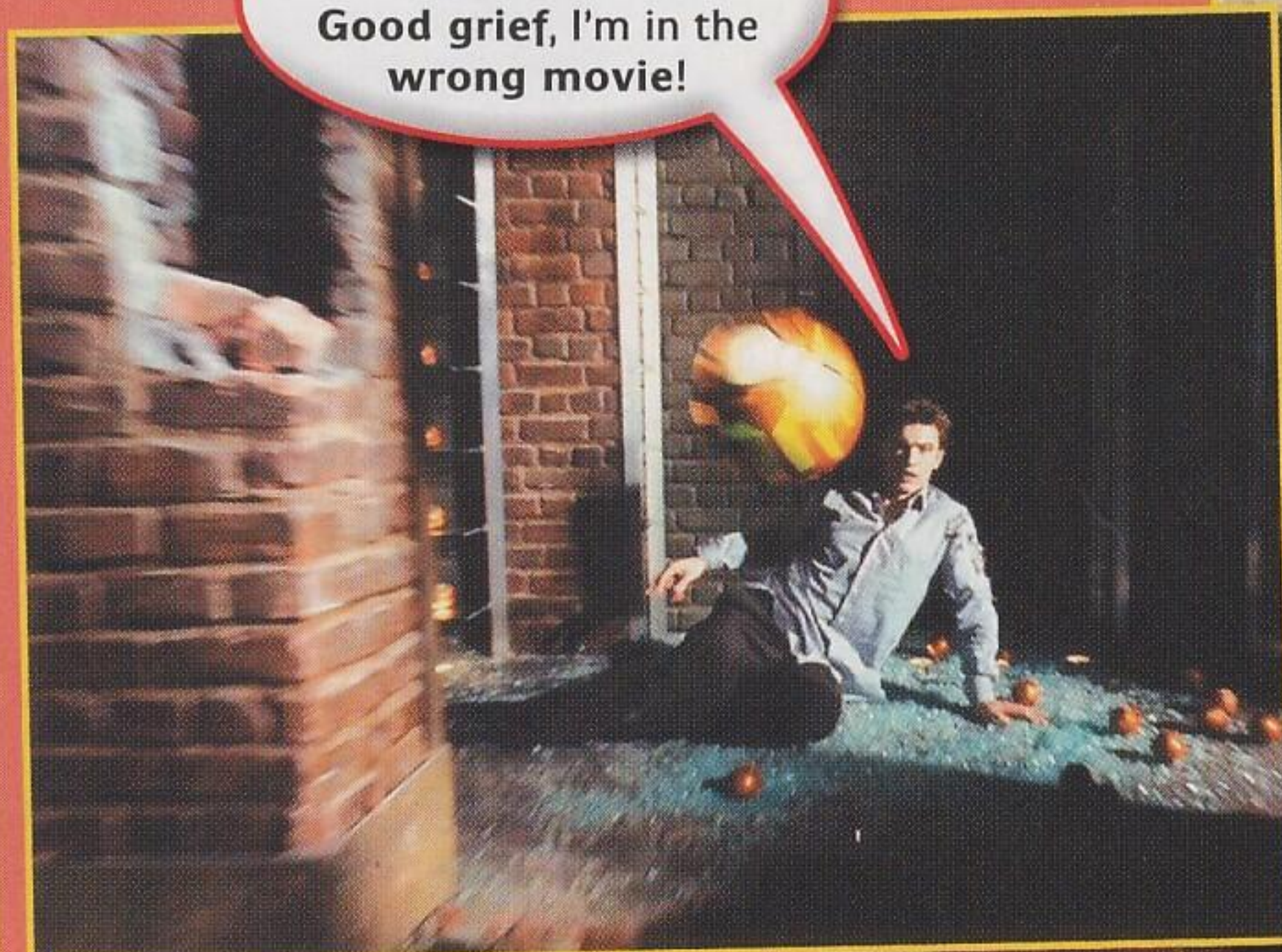
Look up there!
Oh, never mind, it's just
Superman!



Then the train
goes into the tunnel and...
Peter, I thought you
already knew about
the birds and
the bees!



A golden snitch
from a Quidditch match?
Good grief, I'm in the
wrong movie!



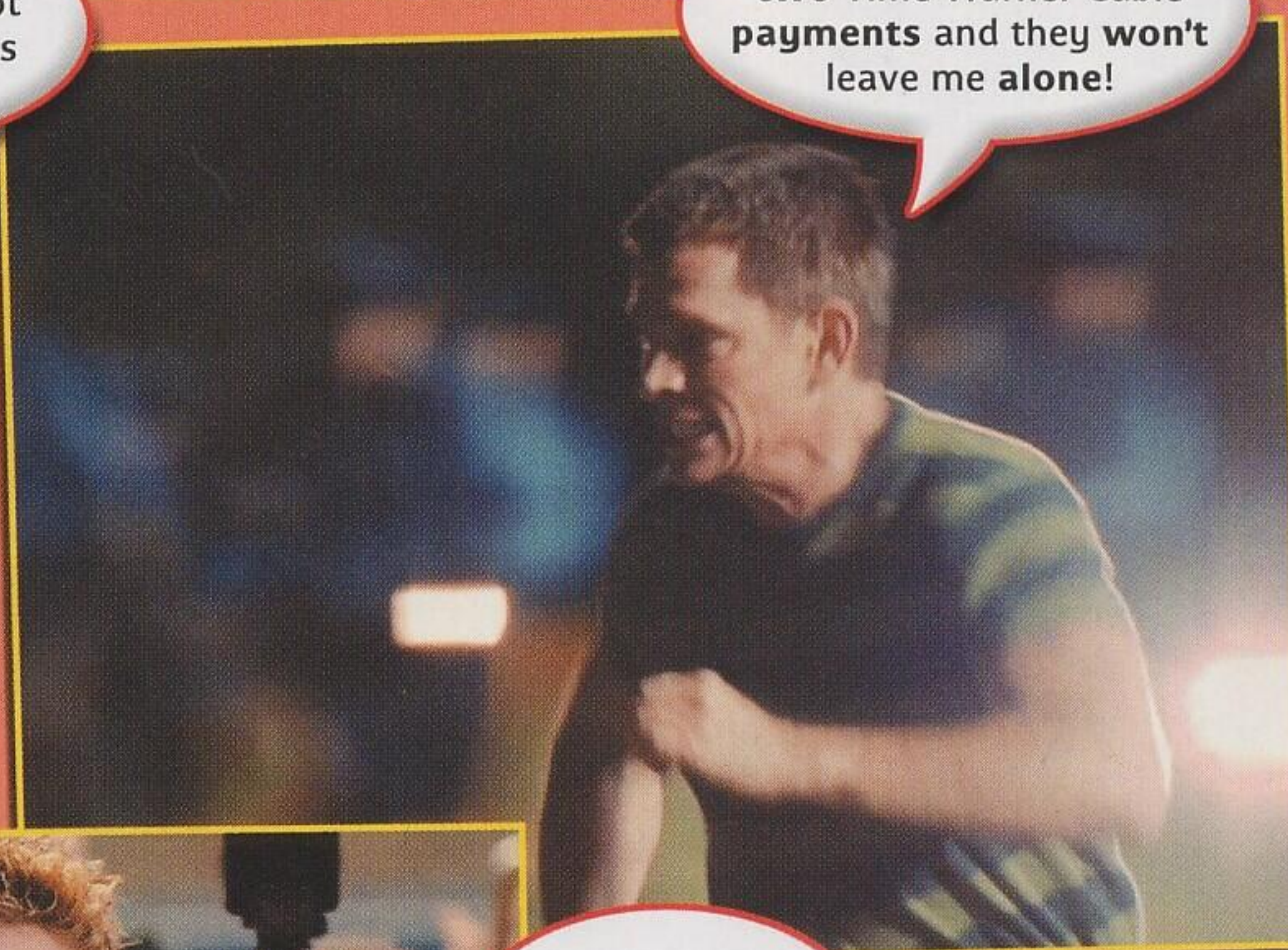
Wh—Whuh
happened? The last thing
I remember... is Diet Coke...
and Mentos...



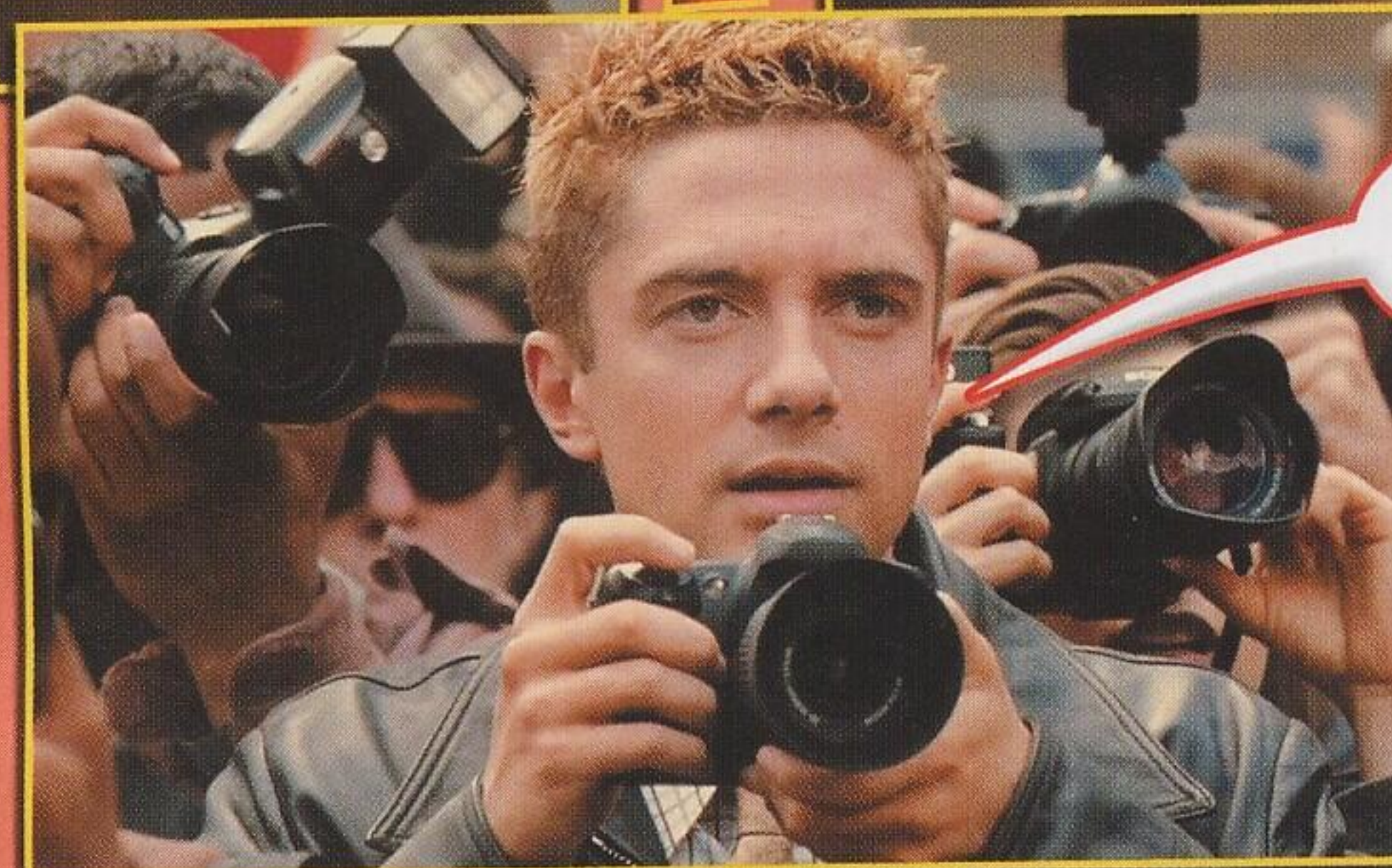
I have a
confession — it's not
all sand. A lot of it is
kitty litter!



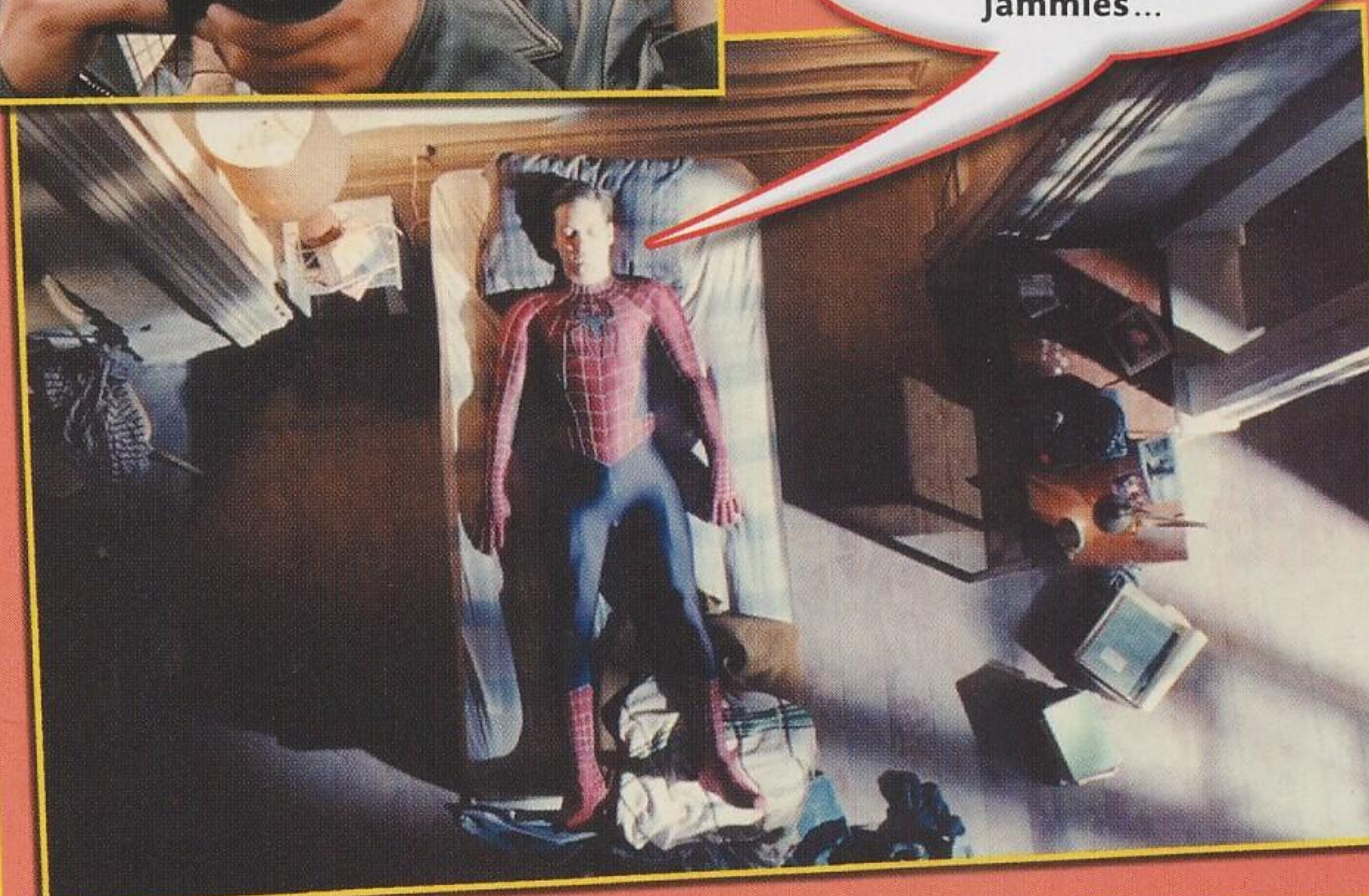
Damn! I missed
two Time Warner Cable
payments and they won't
leave me alone!



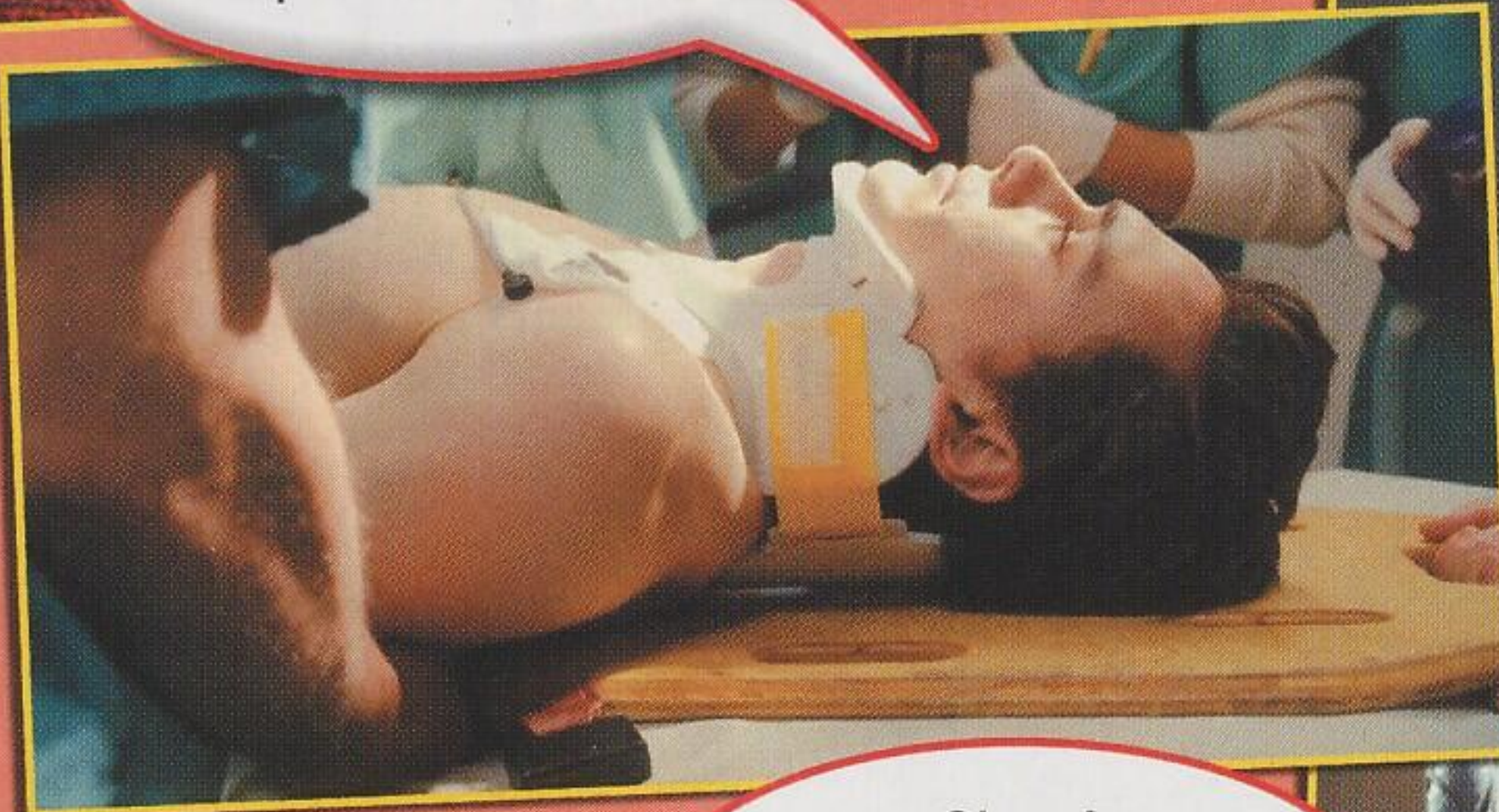
First Britney,
now Mary Jane's
pantyless!



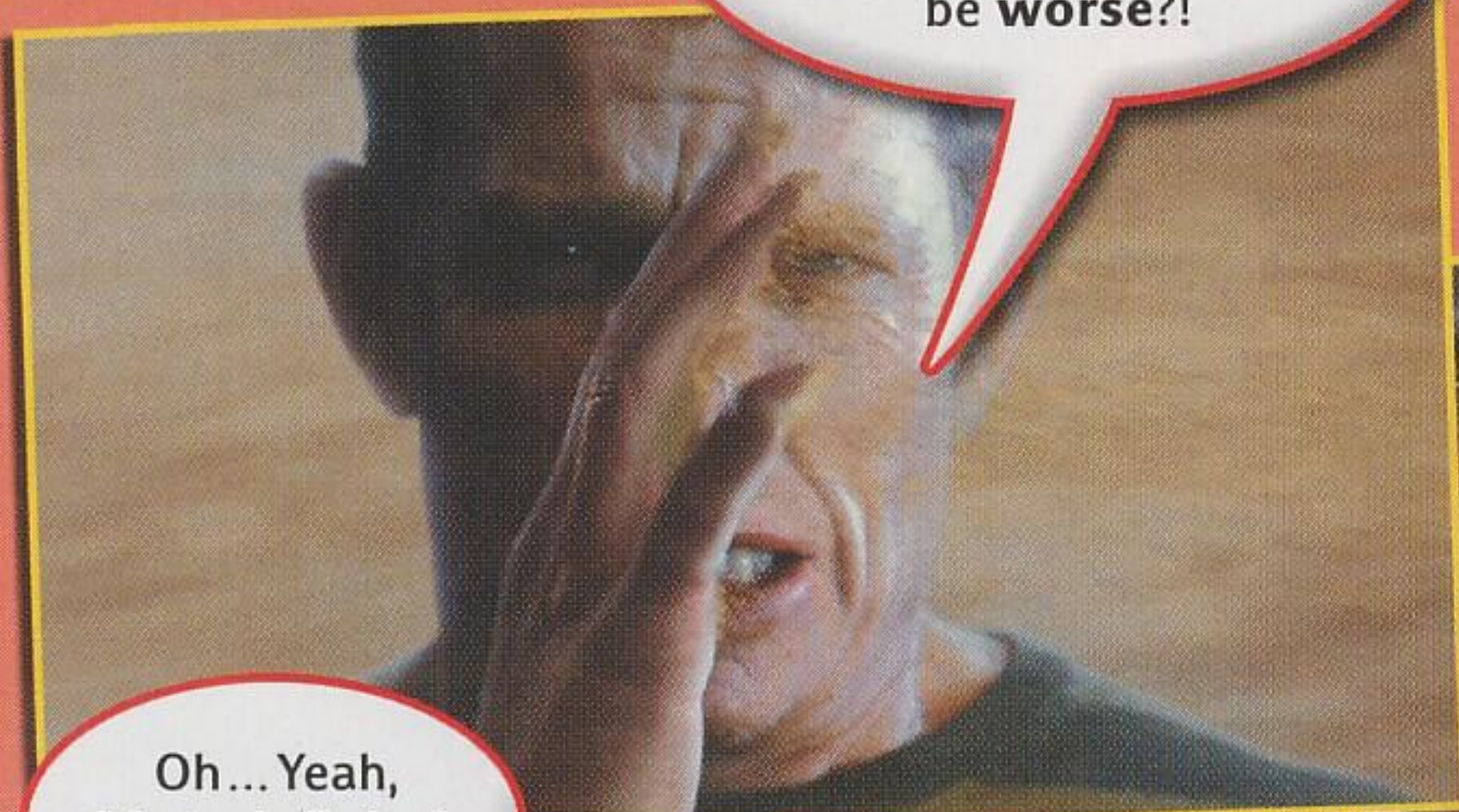
It's a pretty weird
coincidence that Aunt May
bought me these Spider-Man
jammies...



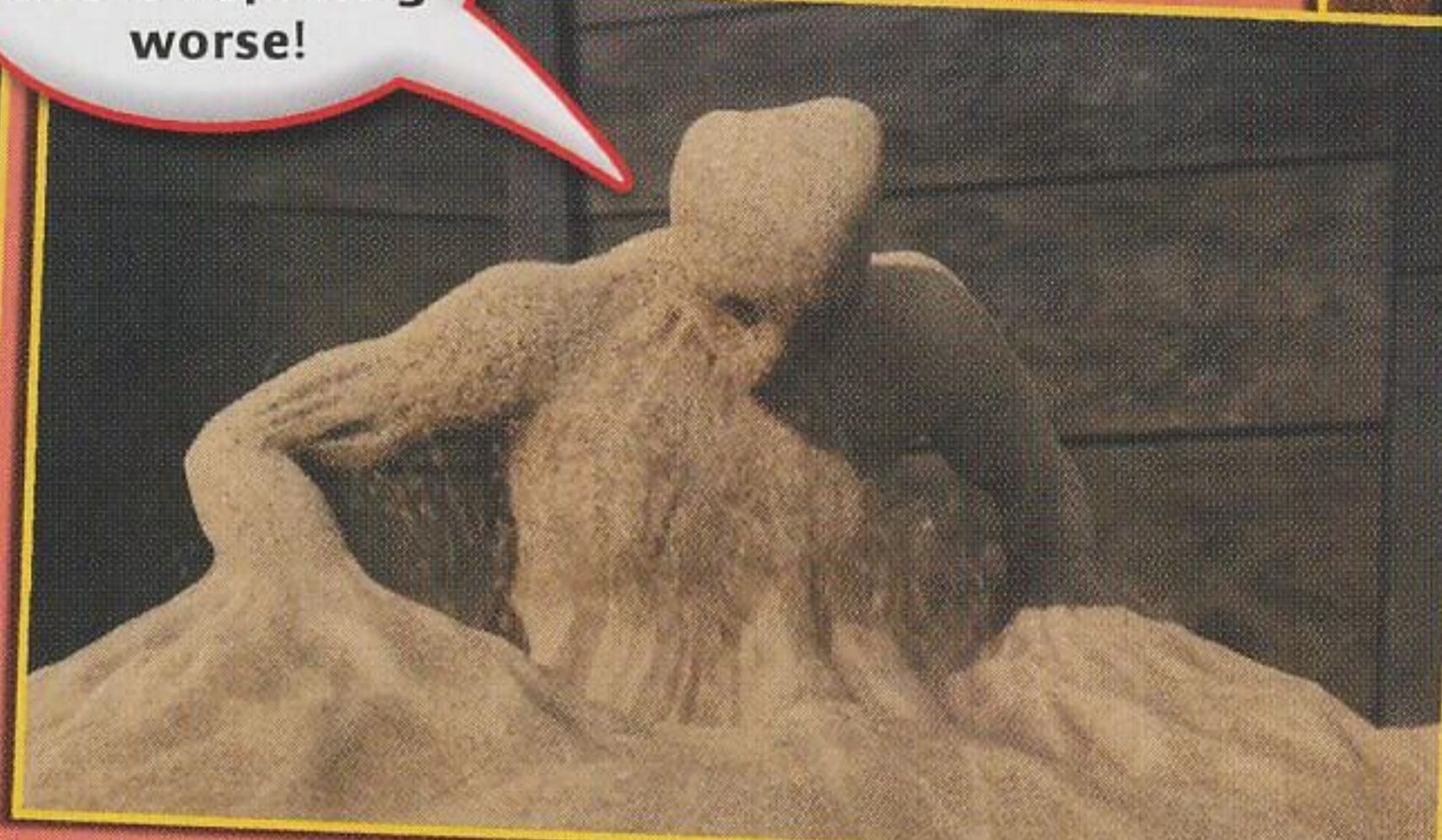
Stupid Nintendo Wii!



Oh no!
I got a **grain of sand** in
my **eye**! Could anything
be **worse**?!



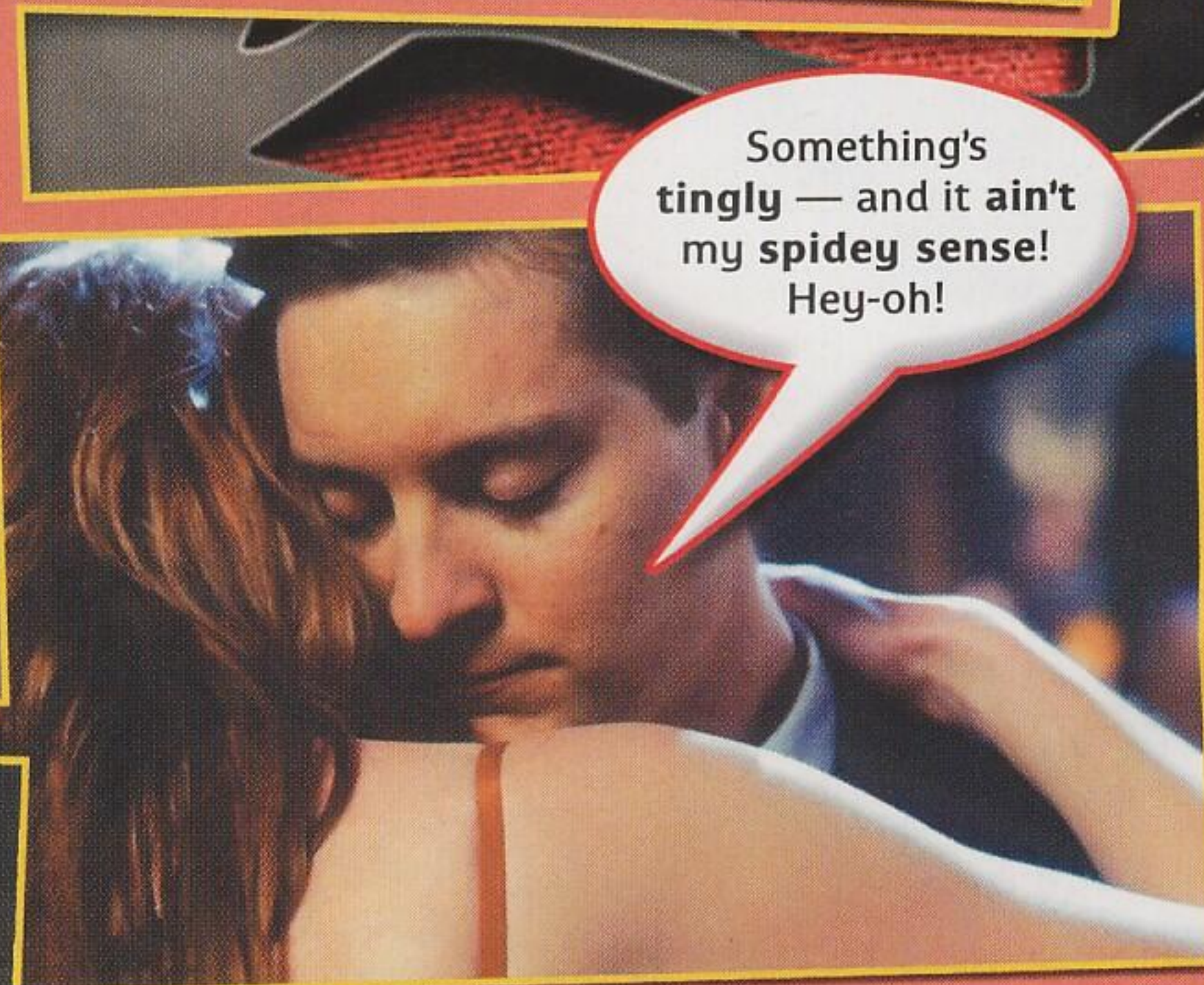
Oh... Yeah,
this is **definitely**
worse!



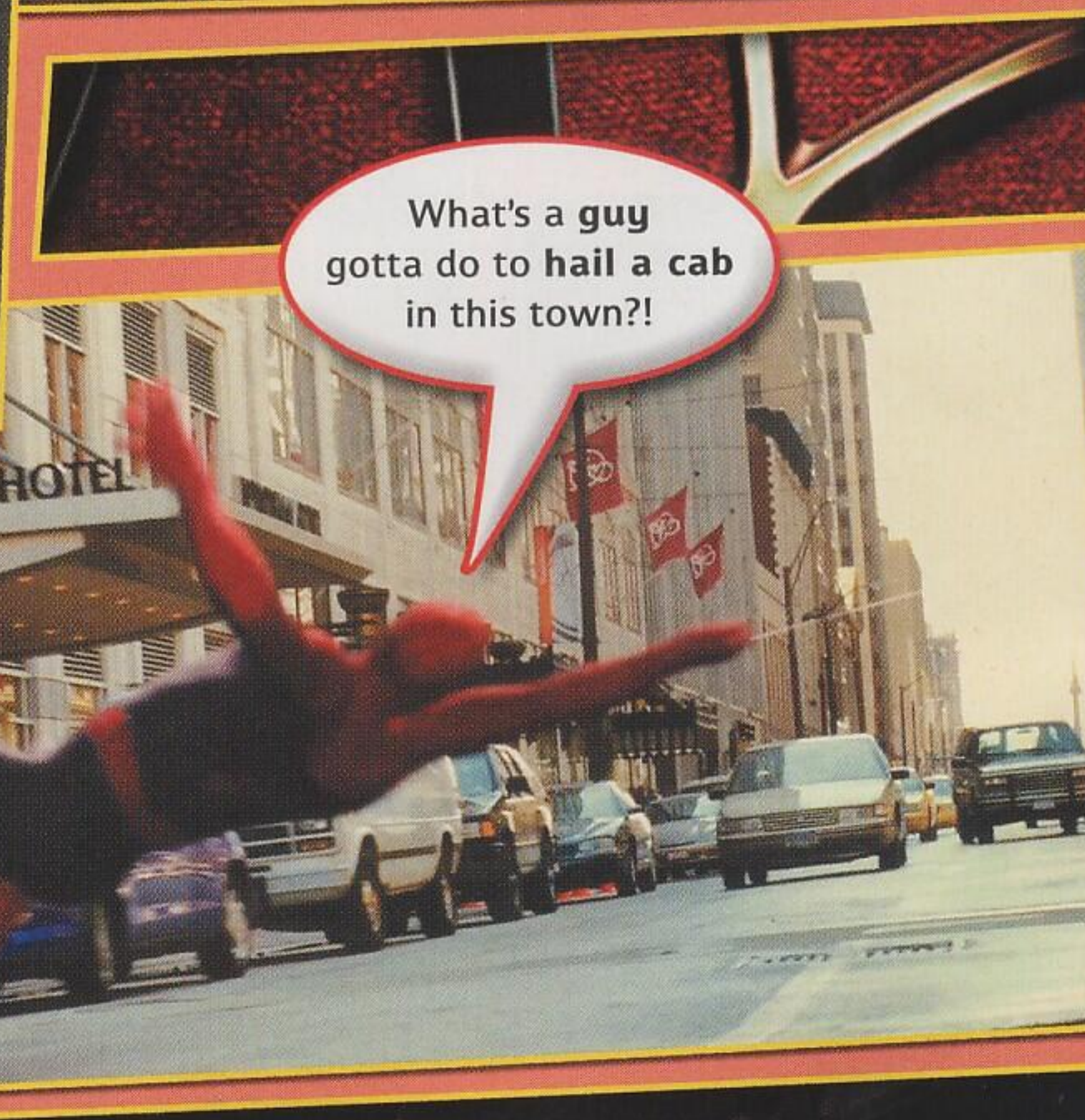
Damn — **this**
is what **happens**
when a **black magic**
marker gets mixed in
with the **wash**!



Something's
tingly — and it ain't
my **spidey sense**!
Hey-oh!



What's a **guy**
gotta do to **hail a cab**
in this **town**?!





If you think
animals suffer,
wait until you see...

MONROE and... Cruelty Free



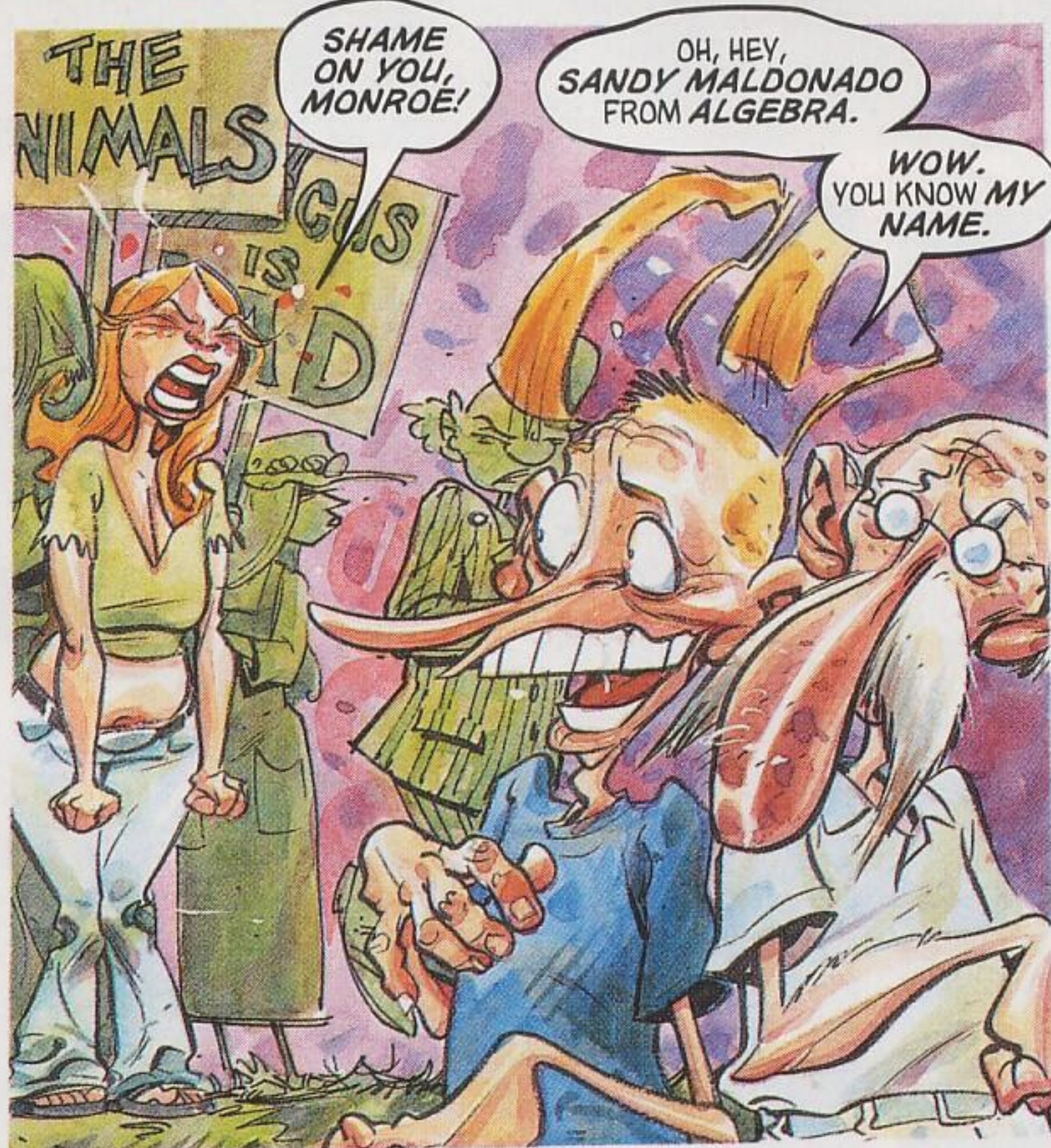
AREN'T
I A LITTLE
OLD FOR THE
CIRCUS?

NONSENSE!
THE SMELL OF
ELEPHANT TURDS
BRINGS OUT THE KID IN
EVERYONE.

THE
OLD MAN'S
RIGHT. CAN'T
WE JUST HAVE
A FAMILY
DAY?

A FAMILY
DAY! DON'T
MAKE ME LAUGH!
YOU'RE JUST HERE
FOR THAT SLUT OF
A BEARDED
HE-SHE.

HEY, YOU
AND I WERE
SEPARATED AT
THE TIME AND THE
TWO OF US STAYED
FRIENDS. IS THAT
A CRIME?!



SHAME
ON YOU,
MONROE!

OH, HEY,
SANDY MALDONADO
FROM ALGEBRA.

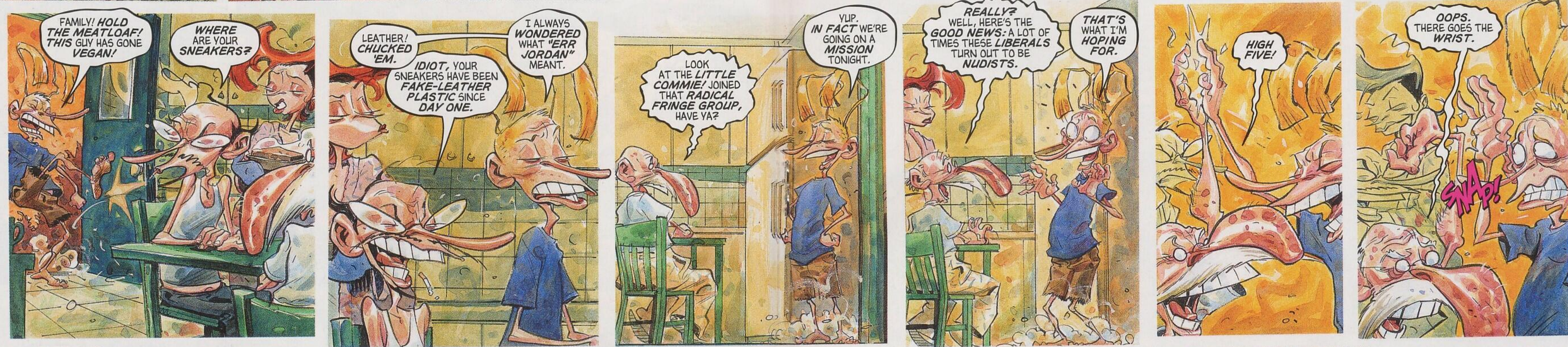
WOW.
YOU KNOW MY
NAME.



I ALSO
KNOW WHAT LIES
IN STORE FOR
THESE ANIMALS.
LOOK AT THESE
PICTURES!

AWESOME!
I THOUGHT THE
CIRCUS WAS GONNA
BE BORING. THIS
LOOKS LIKE
SAW 2!

LOOKS
LIKE A YUMMY
HAMBURGER
MILK SHAKE.





AS I WAS SAYING, MONKEYS ARE EXTREMELY GENTLE, WHEREAS APES...

WHEREAS NOTHING! GET THIS THING OFF ME!!



MAYBE YOU CAN REASON WITH IT!

GREAT! REASON WITH THAT CROWBAR OVER THERE!!

A CROWBAR? NO WAY!! YOU IDIOT, WE'RE AGAINST CRUELTY TO ANIMALS!



CAMPUS COPS. LET'S MOTOR, SETH.

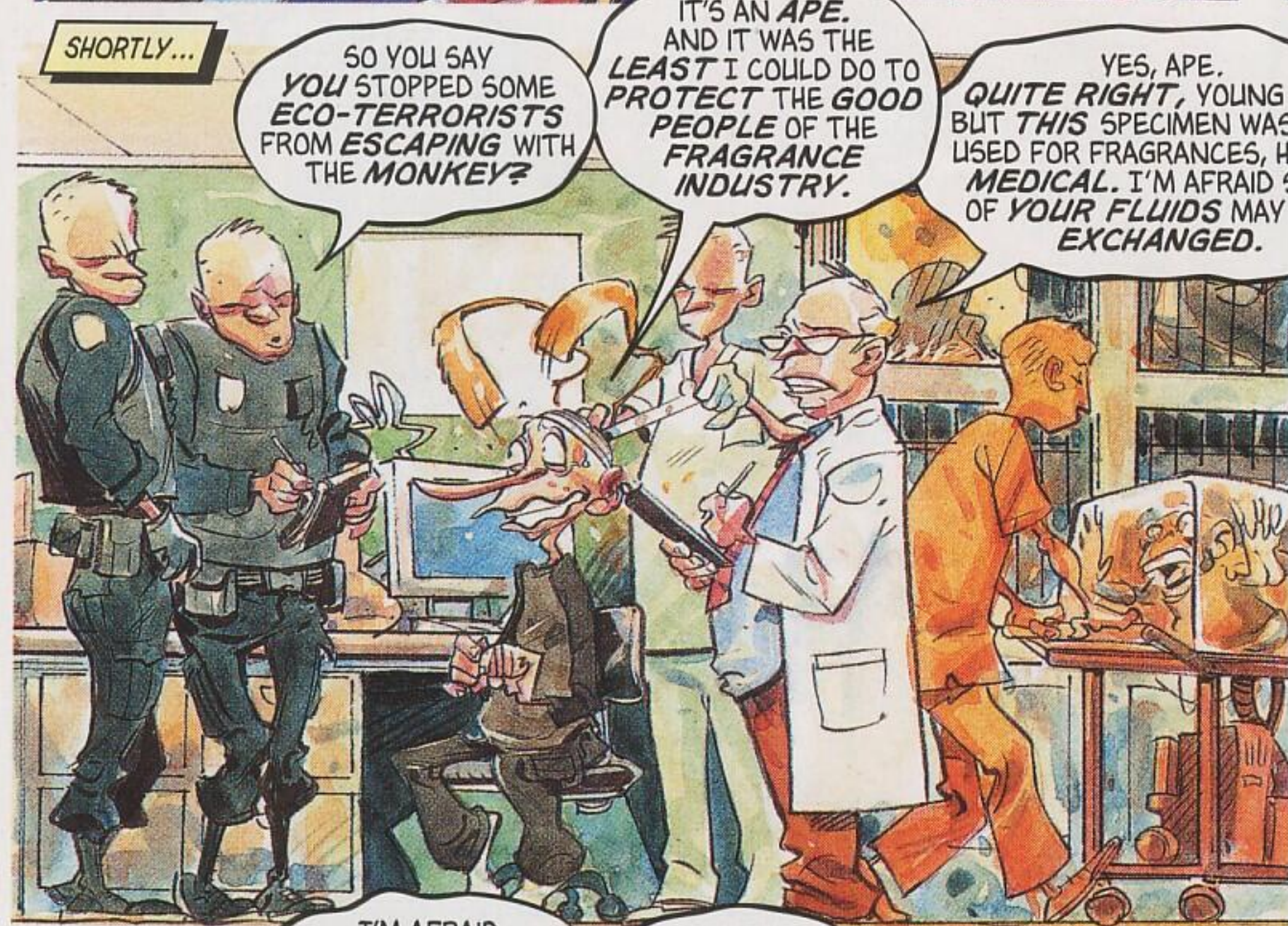
NO, LET'S HYBRID MOTOR.

BUT...



WHAT ABOUT CRUELTY TO ME?!?!?!?

SHORTLY...



SO YOU SAY YOU STOPPED SOME ECO-TERRORISTS FROM ESCAPING WITH THE MONKEY?

IT'S AN APE. AND IT WAS THE LEAST I COULD DO TO PROTECT THE GOOD PEOPLE OF THE FRAGRANCE INDUSTRY.

YES, APE. QUITE RIGHT, YOUNG MAN. BUT THIS SPECIMEN WAS NOT USED FOR FRAGRANCES, HE WAS MEDICAL. I'M AFRAID SOME OF YOUR FLUIDS MAY HAVE EXCHANGED.

WHOA! SO, I COULD, LIKE, INHERIT WHATEVER RADICAL THING HE HAD GOING ON?

PRECISELY.



SO WHAT IS IT? X-RAY VISION, SUPER BRAIN, INVISIBILITY CLOAK?

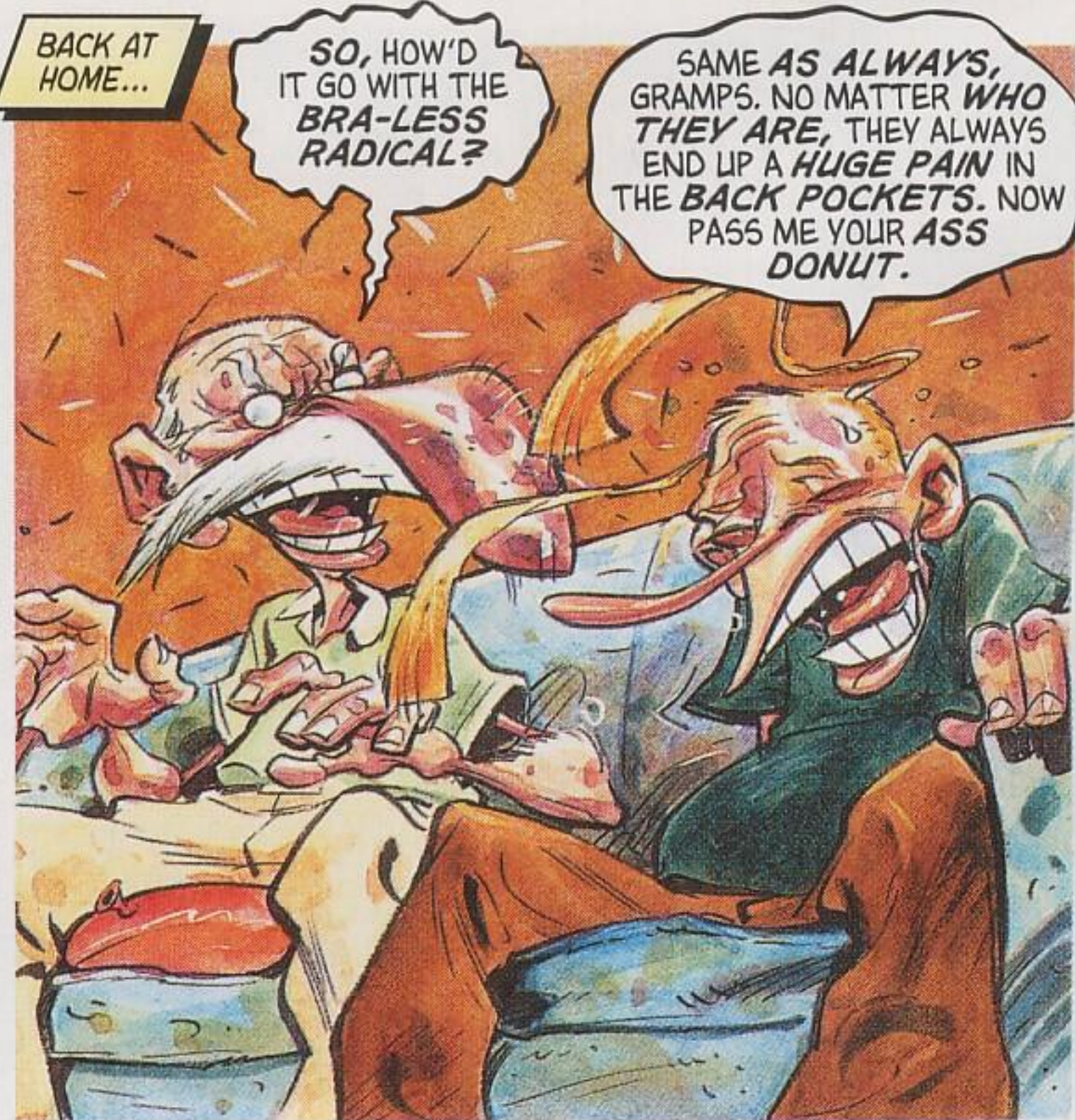
I'M AFRAID WE WERE GROWING ABNORMALLY LARGE HEMORRHOIDS AND ANAL FISSURES ON HIM TO TEST OINTMENTS.

I GUESS NOW WE KNOW WHY HE WAS SO PISSED OFF.

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!



BACK AT HOME...



SO, HOW'D IT GO WITH THE BRA-LESS RADICAL?

SAME AS ALWAYS, GRAMPS. NO MATTER WHO THEY ARE, THEY ALWAYS END UP A HUGE PAIN IN THE BACK POCKETS. NOW PASS ME YOUR ASS DONUT.



SURGE INTO THE EXCITEMENT!

There's stuck. And then there's being stuck with 21,000 other troops on a military mission with no clear objective and little chance of succeeding.

A platoon from Fort Tompkins, SC, on their way to Ramadi.



U.S. ARMY

ARMY STUCK.

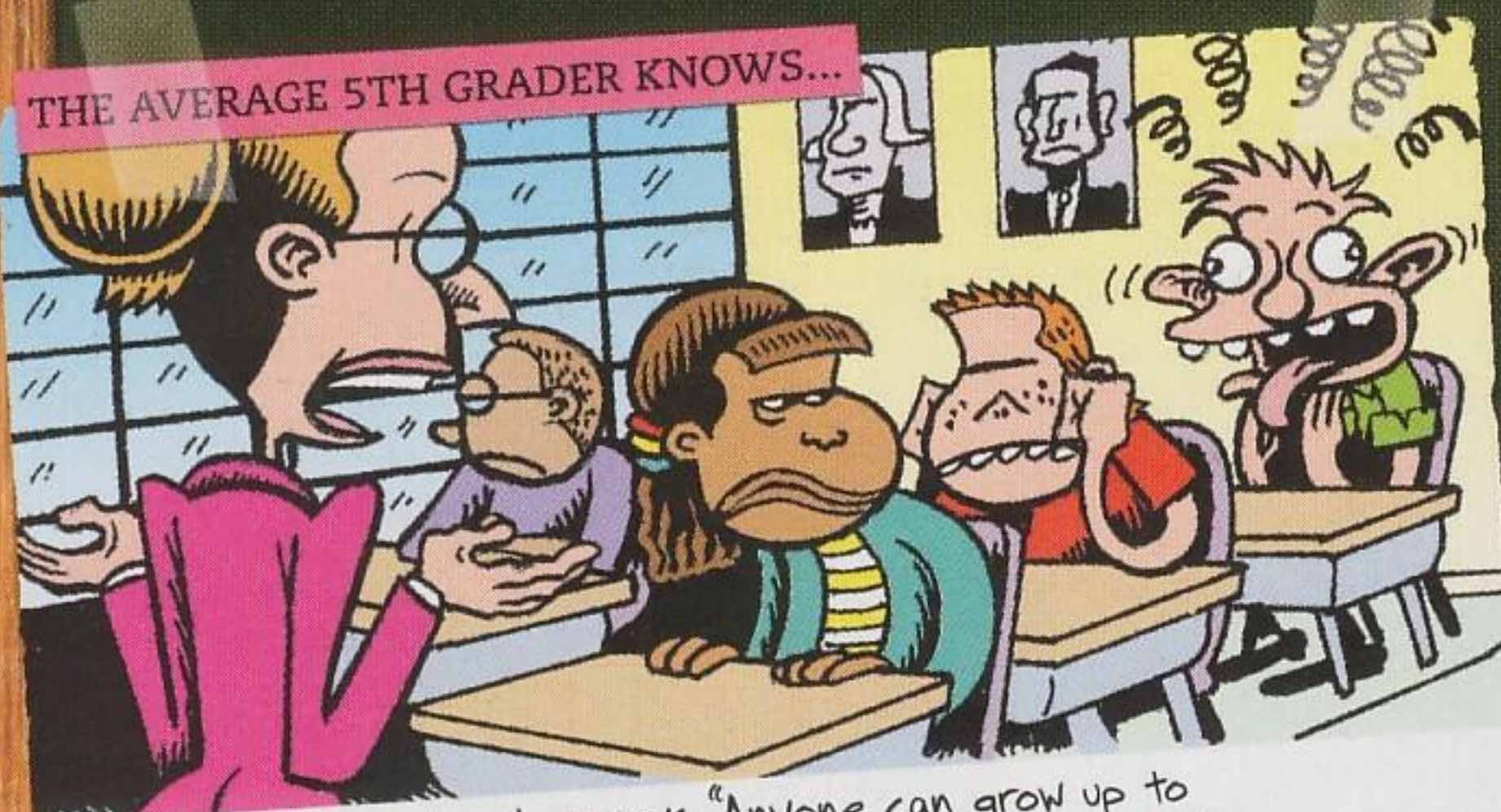
A MAD AD PARODY



WISDOM TRUTH DEPT.

A new show on FOX puts forth an audacious question: "Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?" Since you're a reader of MAD, that question has pretty much been answered for you already. Sorry, Einstein! But for the vast majority of Americans who don't read and have never even heard of MAD*, this is not a simple question to answer. It turns out the average fifth grader is smarter than anyone, especially their parents and teachers - a lot smarter! For example...

THE AVERAGE 5TH GRADER KNOWS...



...when a teacher says "Anyone can grow up to become President," they're really not including them... or that weird kid in the back row, for that matter.

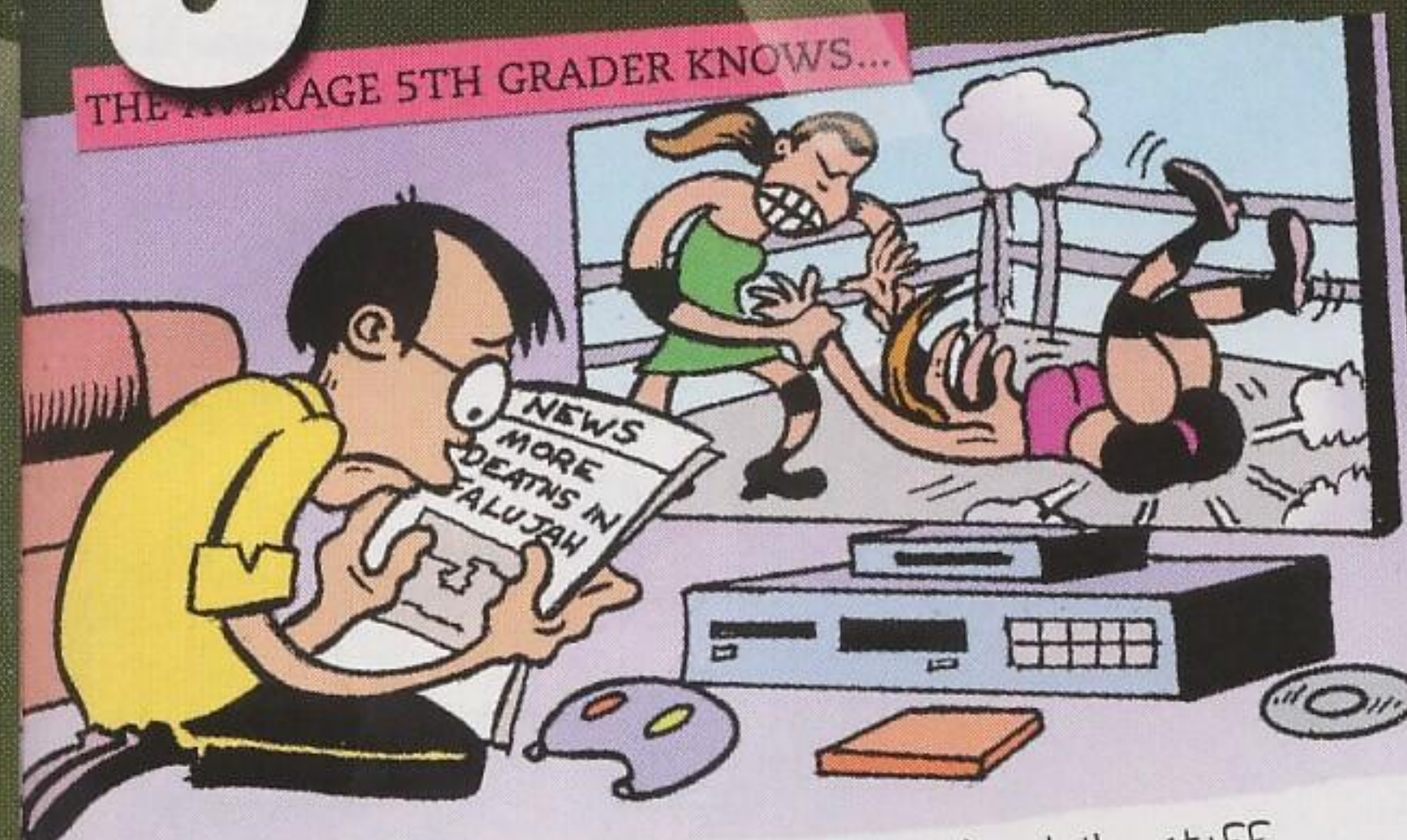
The Average 5th Grader Knows...

THE AVERAGE 5TH GRADER KNOWS...



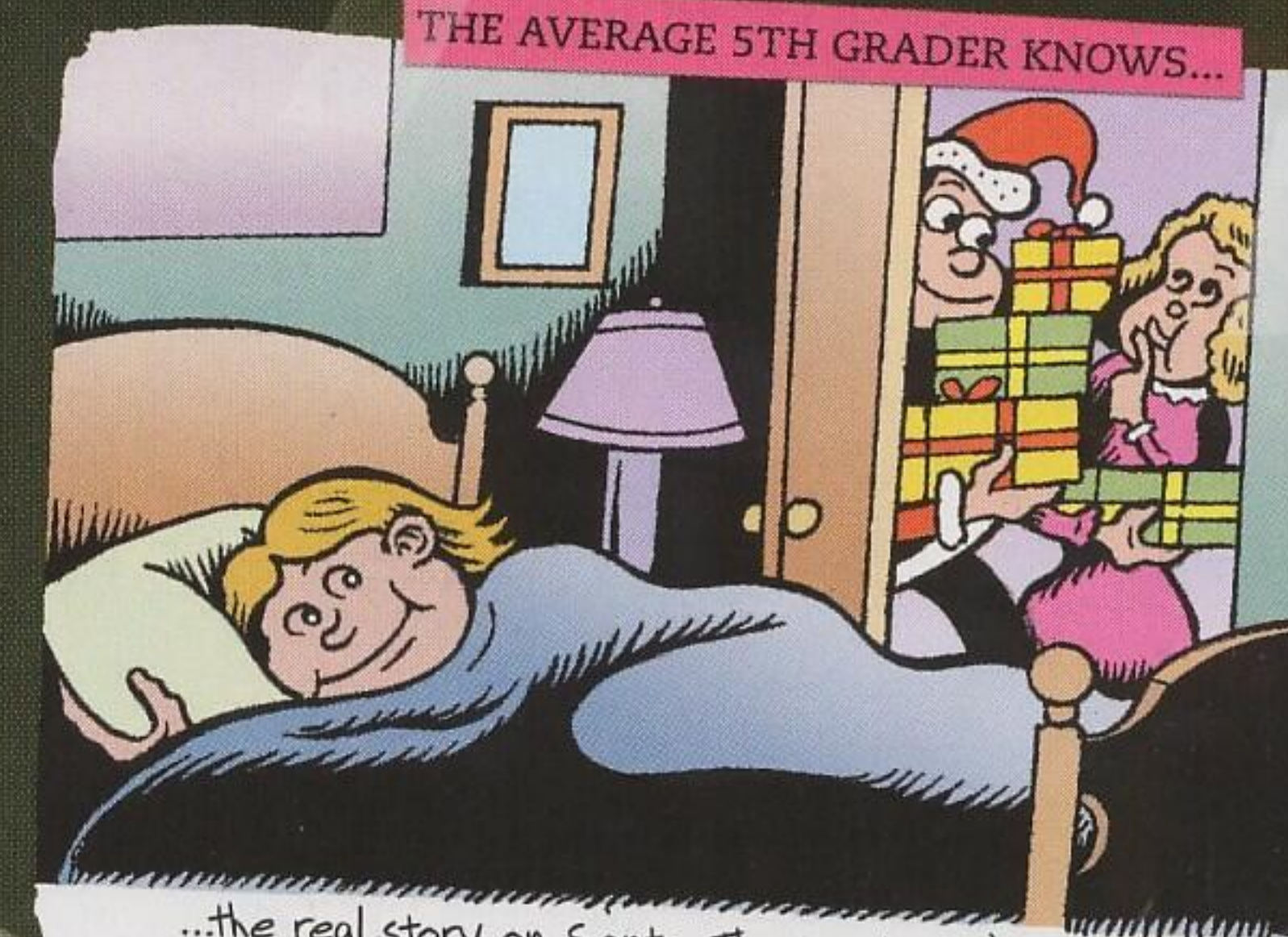
...by heart, the explicit lyrics to every song that their parents would only let them buy the "clean" version of.

THE AVERAGE 5TH GRADER KNOWS...



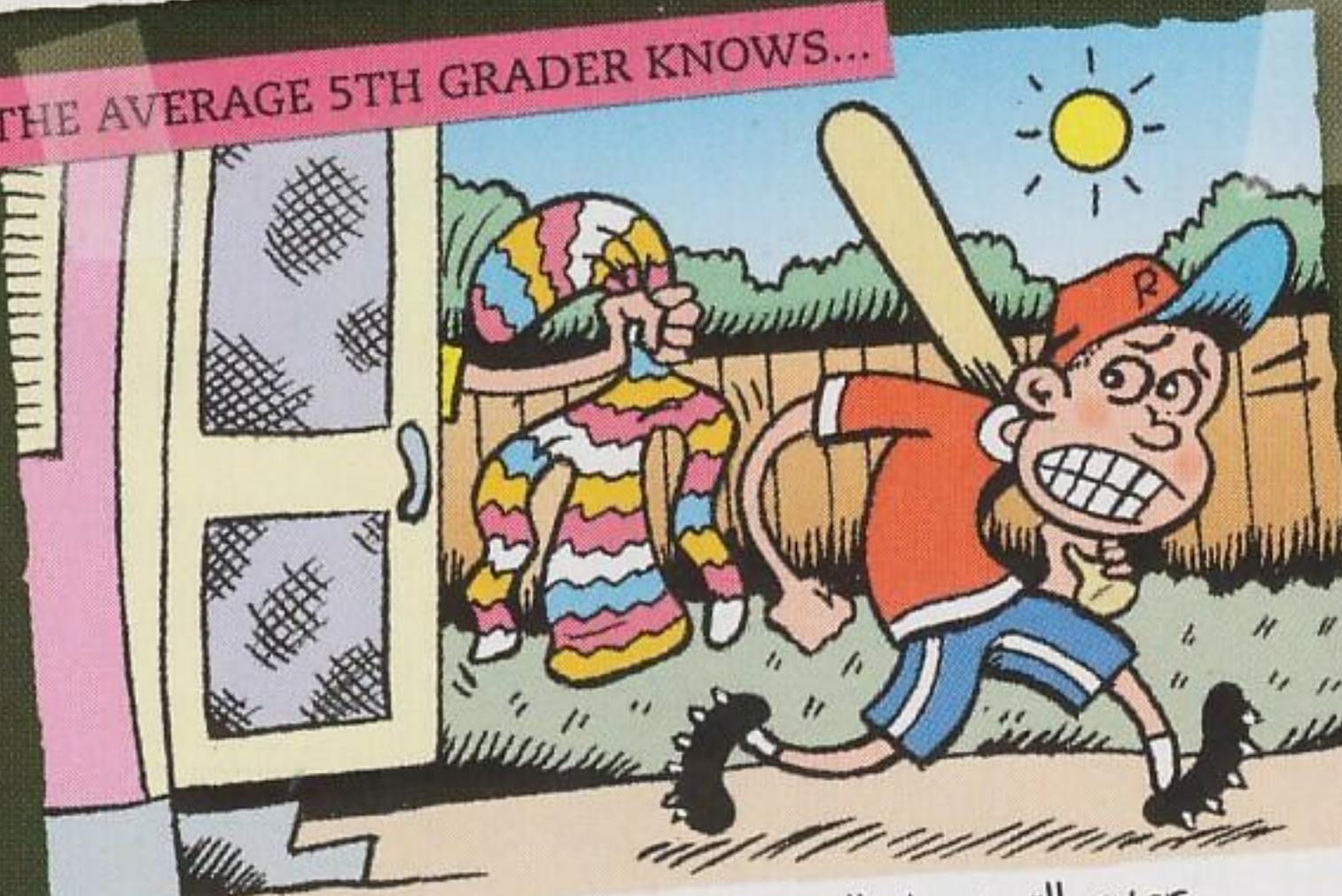
...the violence on the evening news is real and the stuff in movies, video games and wrestling is fake. Duh!

THE AVERAGE 5TH GRADER KNOWS...



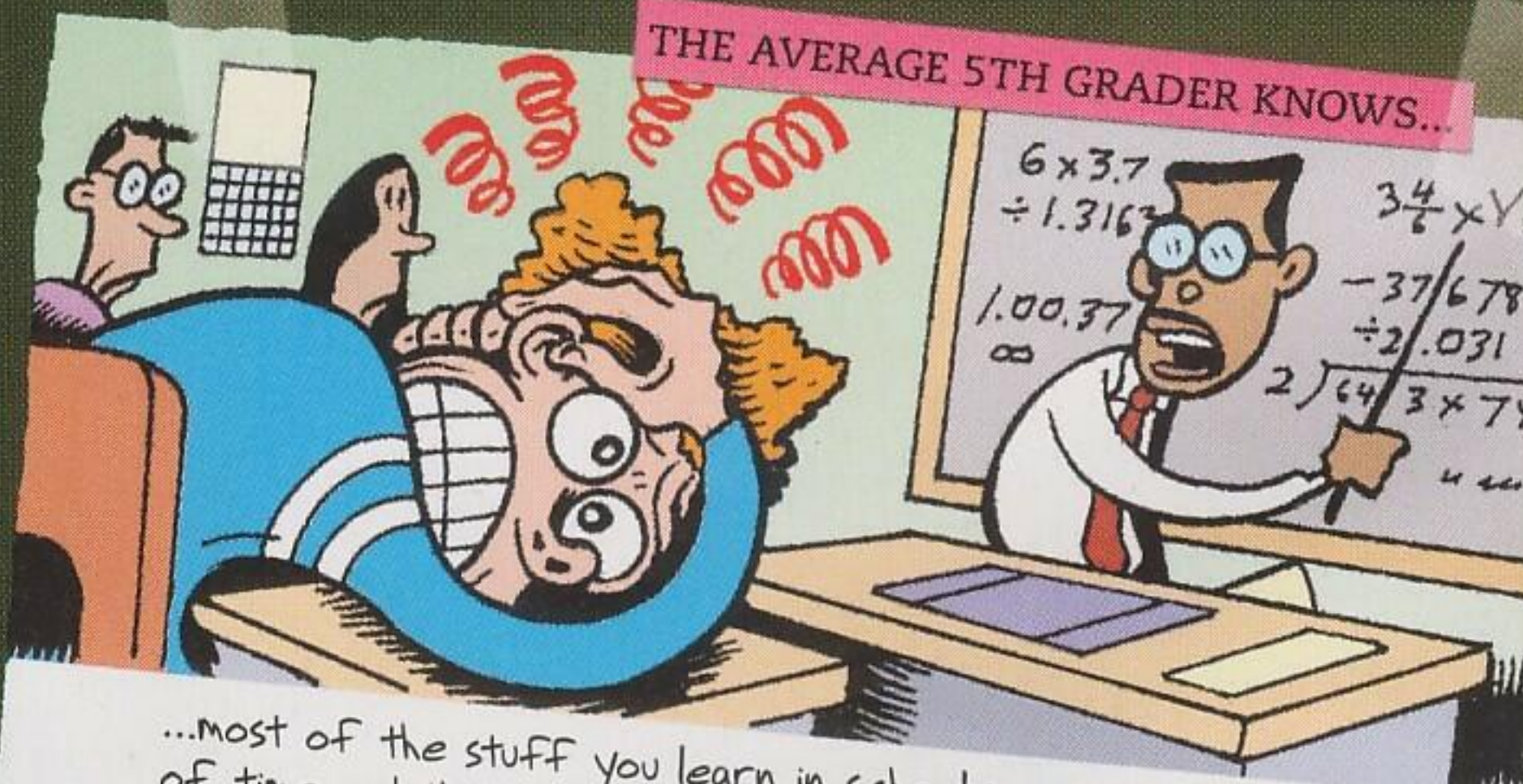
...the real story on Santa. They just won't admit it for fear of screwing up the flow of presents.

THE AVERAGE 5TH GRADER KNOWS...



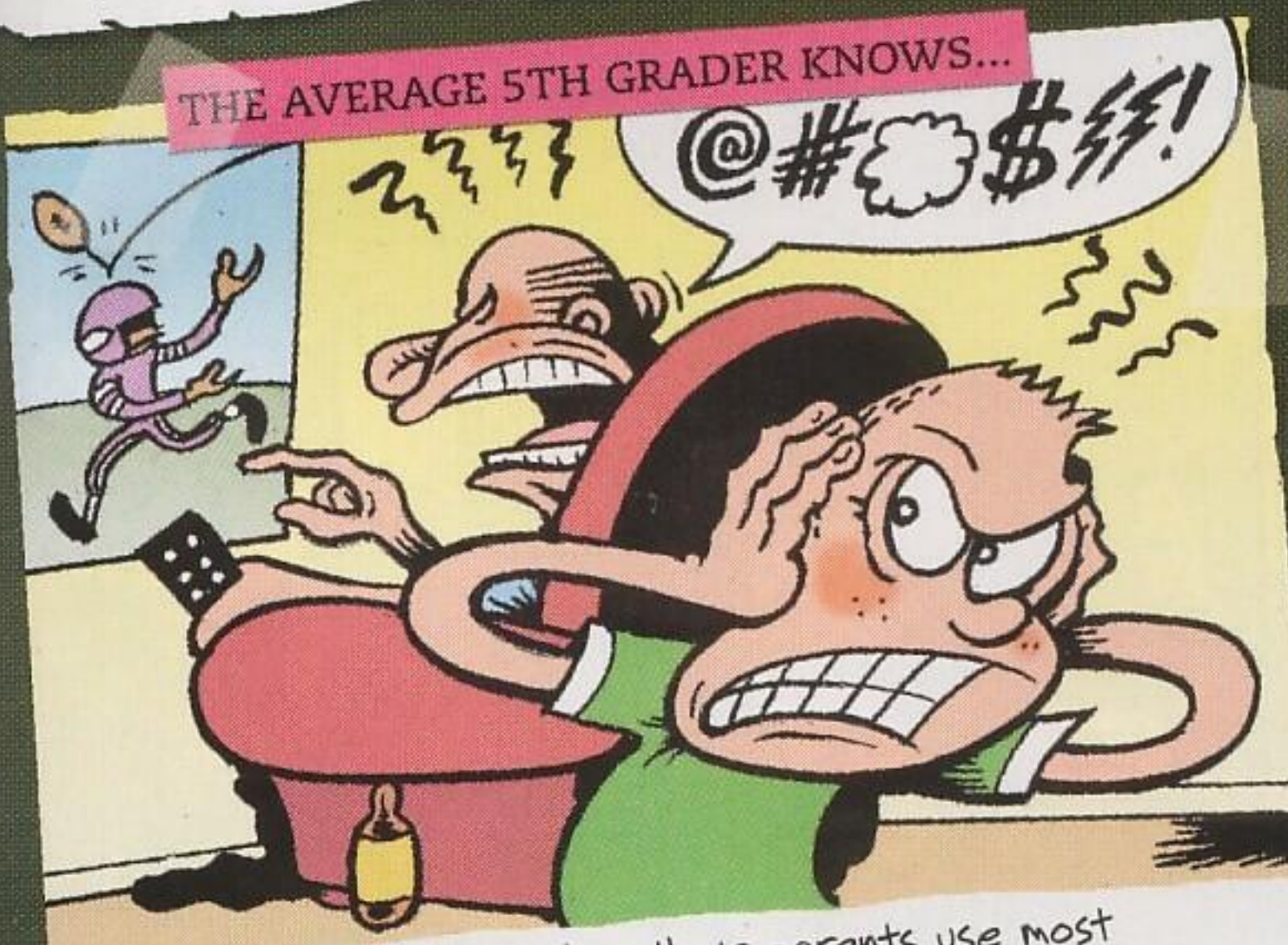
...there is not a chance in hell they will ever put on the sweater their mother is making them bring along "just in case it gets cool."

THE AVERAGE 5TH GRADER KNOWS...



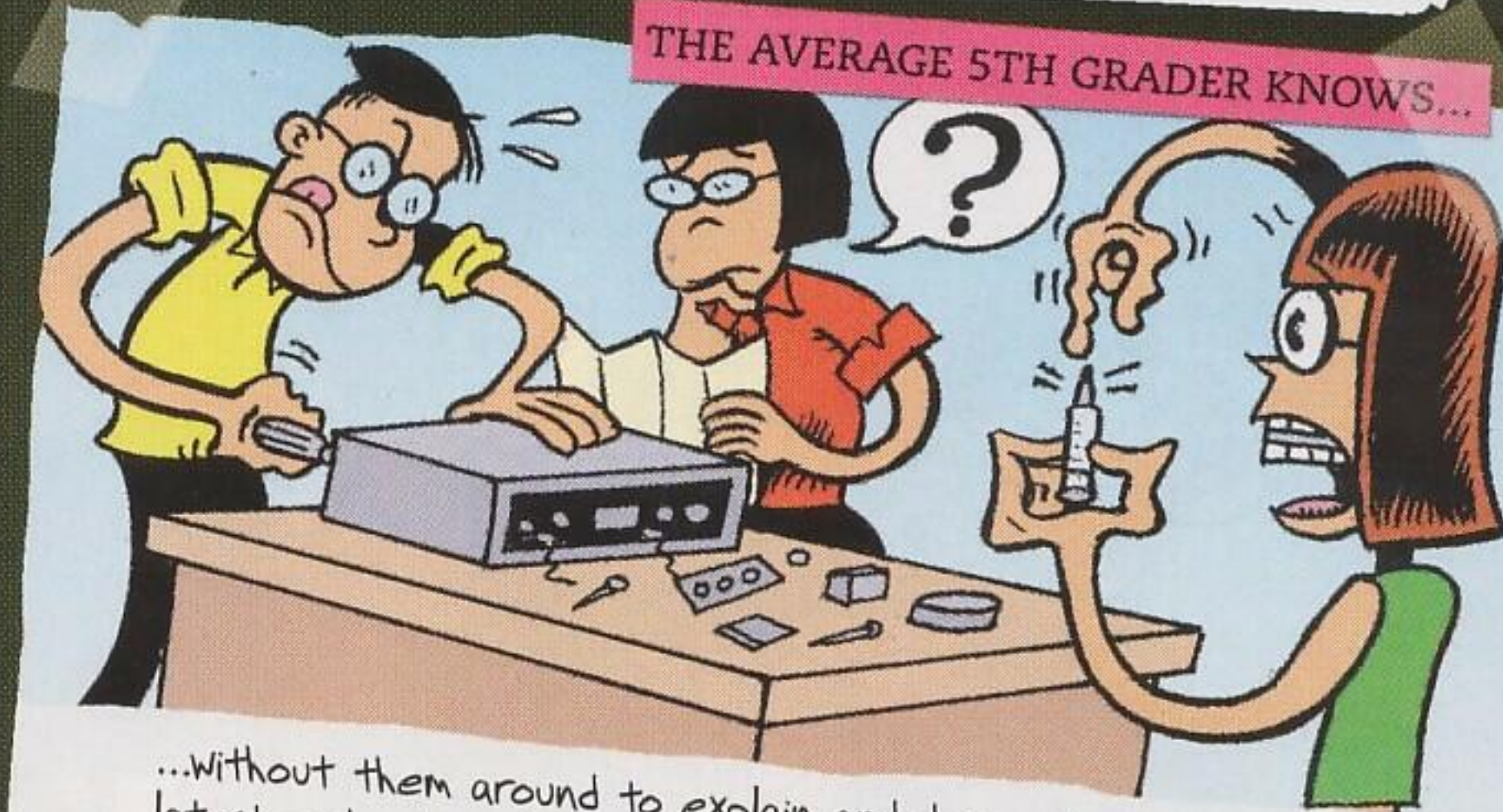
...most of the stuff you learn in school is a complete waste of time and the chances of them ever needing to know pi is just slightly greater than their chances of needing to know the starting date of the French and Indian War.

THE AVERAGE 5TH GRADER KNOWS...



...on any given day, their parents use most of the words they get grounded for using.

THE AVERAGE 5TH GRADER KNOWS...



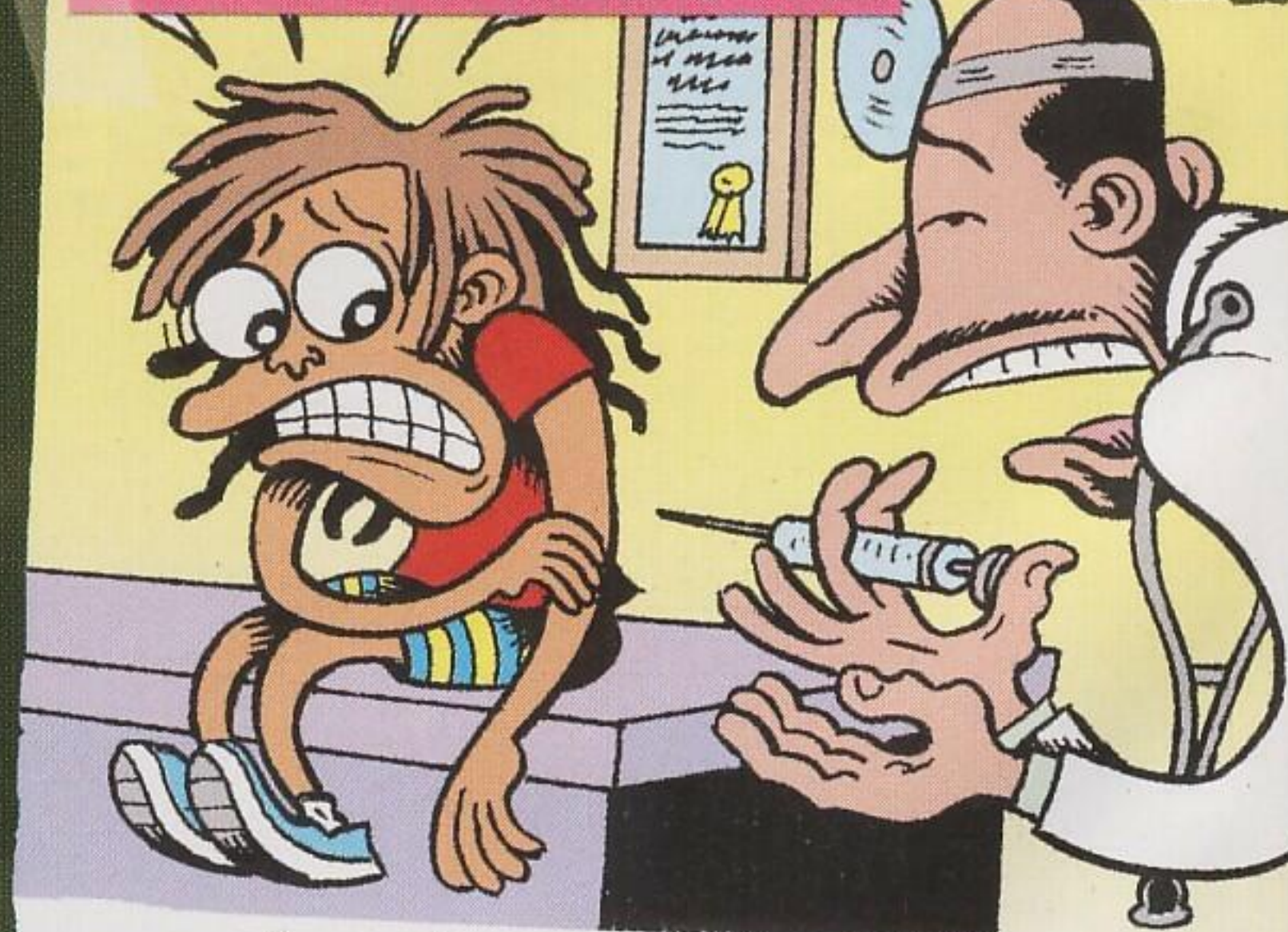
...without them around to explain and demonstrate how the latest gadget works, their parents would be totally screwed.

THE AVERAGE 5TH GRADER KNOWS...



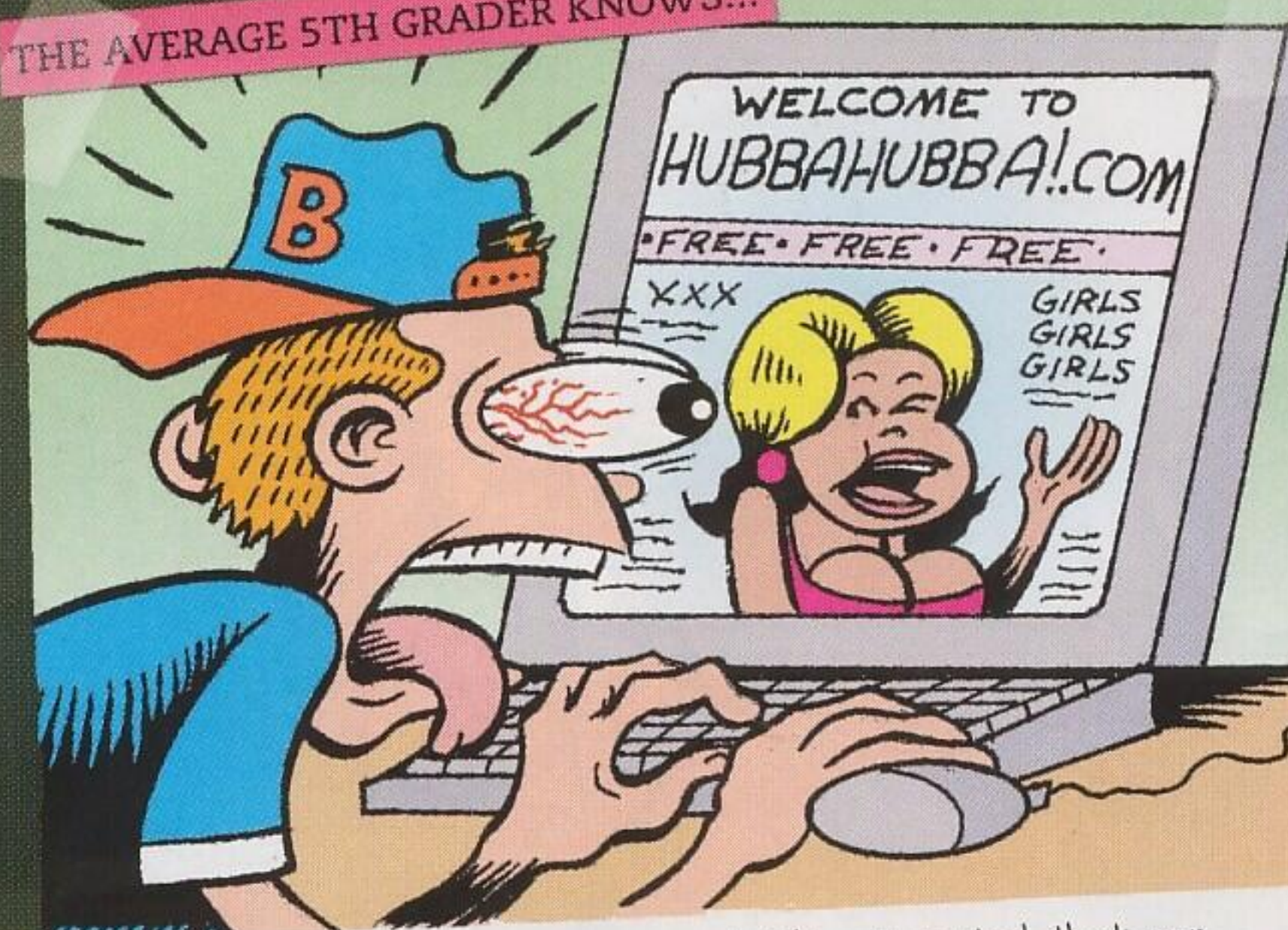
...everything their parents are going to attempt to tell them about sex, when they finally get around to "the talk" a few years from now.

THE AVERAGE 5TH GRADER KNOWS...



...the needle is going to hurt like hell, regardless of what the frickin' doctor says.

THE AVERAGE 5TH GRADER KNOWS...



...there hasn't been an internet filter invented that can keep them from visiting the sites they want to visit.

THE AVERAGE 5TH GRADER KNOWS...



...exactly where everything is in their bedroom, despite how it may look.

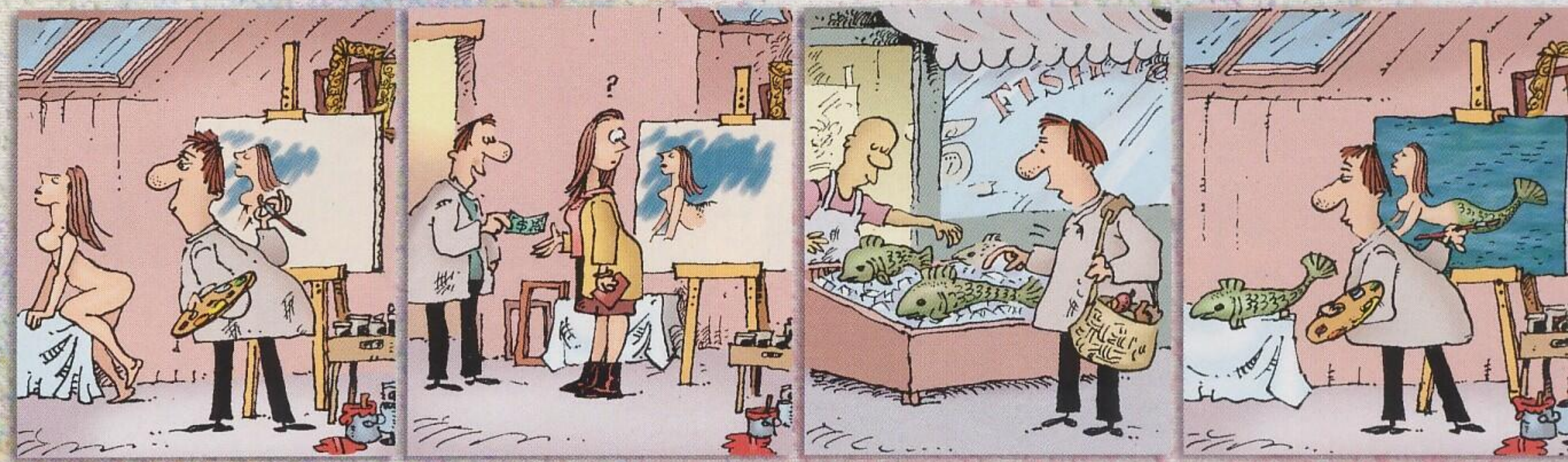
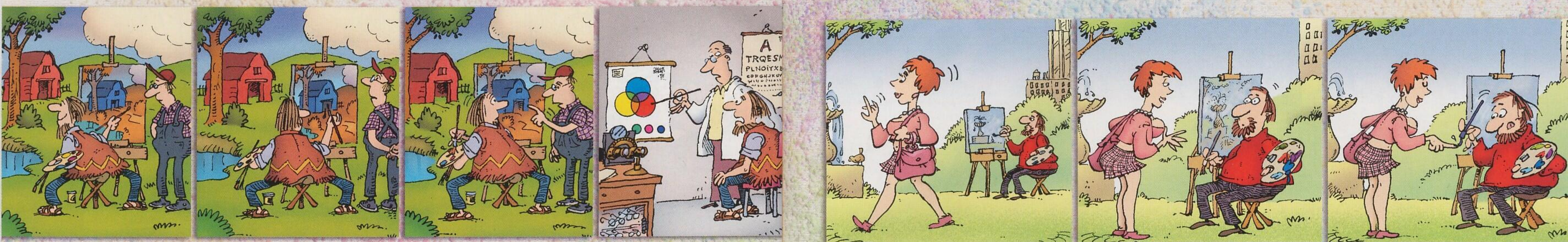
*a little shout out to MAD's Marketing Department!

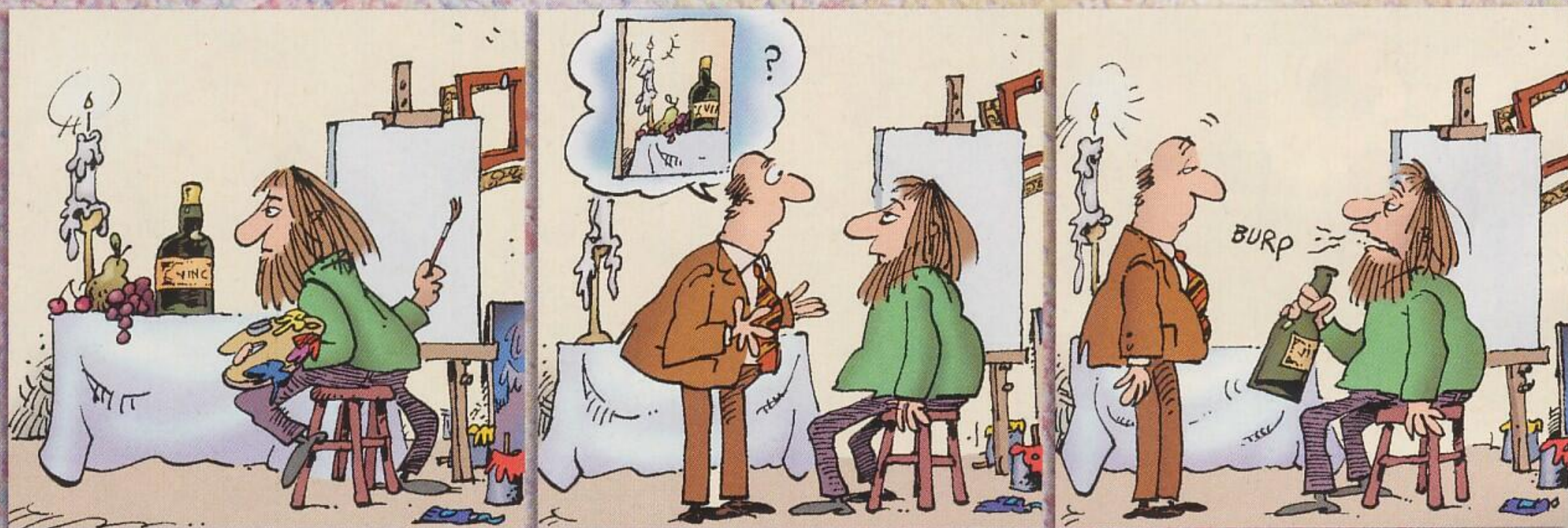
WRITER: J. PRETE

ARTIST: PETER BAGGE

Sergio Aragonés
 Presents **A MAD** Look

AT ARTISTS







ARTIST: HERMANN MEJIA

ALL NEW EPISODES OF TV'S MOST VIOLENT GAME SHOW
FRANK MILLER'S 1 VS 300
PREMIERING THIS SUMMER ON

NBC



A MAD AD
PARODY



Planet TAD!!!!



[About Me]

[Name|Tad]

[Days 'Til Drivers License|Way too many]

[Best-Ever Wii Bowling Score|246]

[Best-Ever Real Bowling Score|37]

[19 May|02:09pm]

I wonder if spiders have their own version of **Spider-Man**, where a spider gets bitten by a **radioactive** human and winds up being able to use a fork and balance his checkbook.



[21 May|07:43pm]

[mood| excited]

Hooray! I've been practicing for weeks, and I finally figured out how to do a **kickflip** on my **skateboard**! Well, sort of — I can jump up and flip the skateboard beneath me, but I haven't figured out how to actually land on anything other than my face. Still, though, the first half looks pretty great. And besides, landing isn't important. The important thing is, I can take a picture of me in mid-air and put it on my blog, and it'll look awesome.



[22 May|06:24pm]

[mood| frustrated]

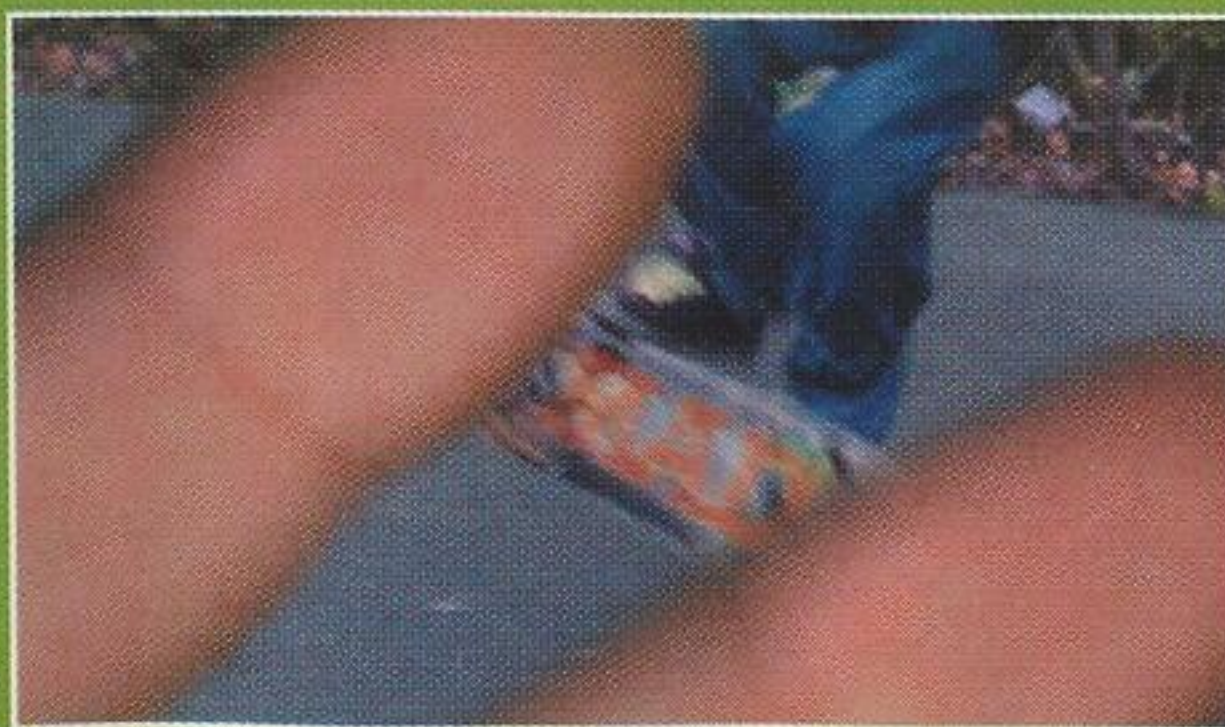
Gaaaargh! Chuck and I spent all afternoon in his driveway, trying to get a picture of me doing my kickflip, but my **dad's digital camera** really sucks. Here are some of the photos we took:



This one was taken, like, a second too soon.



This one was taken a second too late.



This one is of Chuck's fingers. He's not a very good photographer.

Anyway. We're going to try again next weekend. Hopefully by then the swelling in my face will have gone down.

[23 May|03:08pm]

[mood| bored]

Is there any law against changing your first name to "Doctor"? It seems like there should be.

[25 May|04:47pm]

[mood| happy]

Good news! I was talking to Chuck and his friend Kevin today, and Chuck mentioned how we're trying to take the skateboard picture. It turns out Kevin's dad has a really nice **high-speed digital camera** that's really good at taking action shots. Kevin said he could sneak it out and let us borrow it, but that we'd have to be super-careful, 'cause it's a nice camera and really expensive. And then he mentioned it again. And then he mentioned it a third time.

I think Kevin thinks I'm an idiot.

[27 May|01:35pm]

I just saw the trailers for the new **Harry Potter** movie. I think that at this point, they should either find some new actors, or write in a subplot where **Voldemort** puts a spell on Harry and his friends that makes them age two and a half years for every year they're in school.

[29 May|03:49pm]

[mood| pretty scared]

Ohhhhhh crap. Kevin gave me his dad's camera today, and I put it in my **backpack**. And then when I got home, I kind of forgot the camera was in there. So when I got home, I did what I usually do with my backpack, which is throw it into the corner of my room. And when I did, I heard a noise. A bad noise, like someone else's dad's camera breaking. And sure enough, when I took it out and turned it on, the camera just made this weird whining noise.

Oh crap oh crap oh crap.

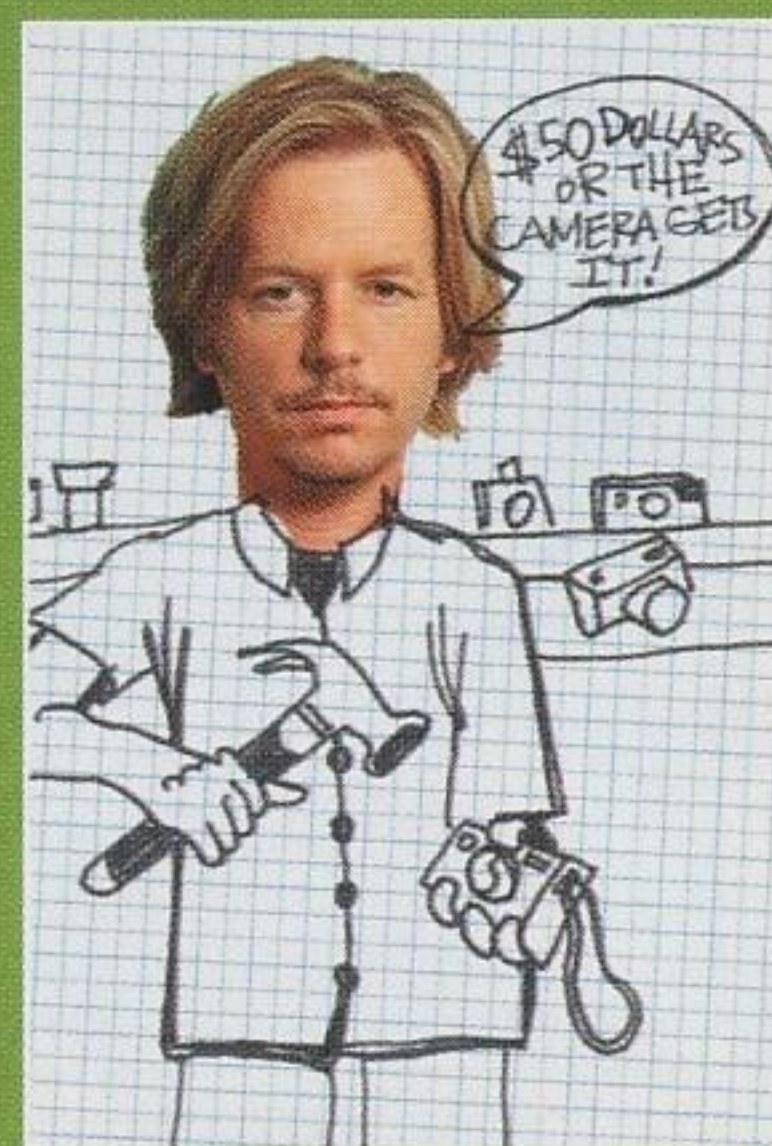
Oh crap.

[30 May|05:42pm]

[mood| totally terrified]

I took Kevin's dad's camera to the **camera store** today, to ask about how to fix it. I was sort of hoping they'd tell me that it just, like, needed a new **battery** or something. But instead the creepy guy at the camera store who looks like sort of like **David Spade** told me that I'd knocked the lens out of alignment. I asked him what that means, and he told me it means that I need to pay him \$300. I told him I'd just try and fix it myself, then. That's when he told me that just having had him look at the camera would cost me \$50. I told him I didn't have \$50. He said he'd keep the camera until I did.

Great. All I wanted was a picture of my kickflip. Now Kevin's dad's camera is being held for ransom by David Spade.

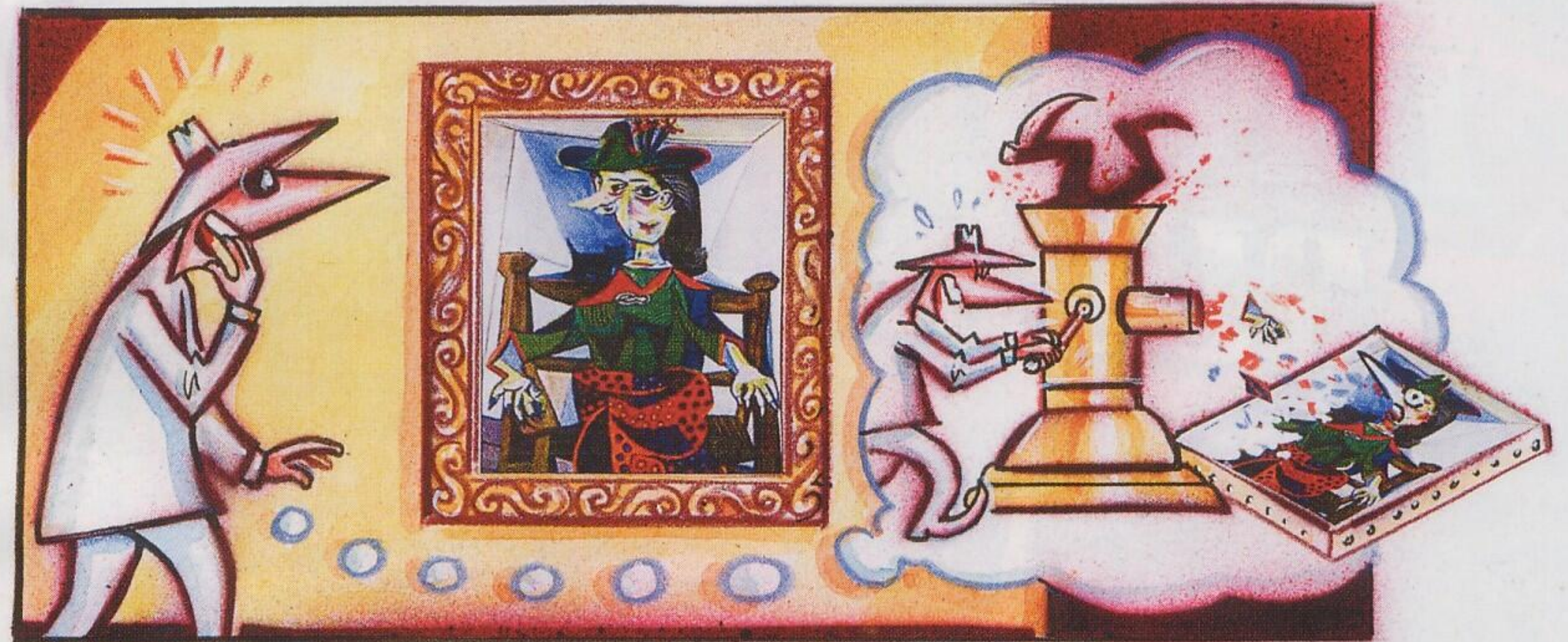
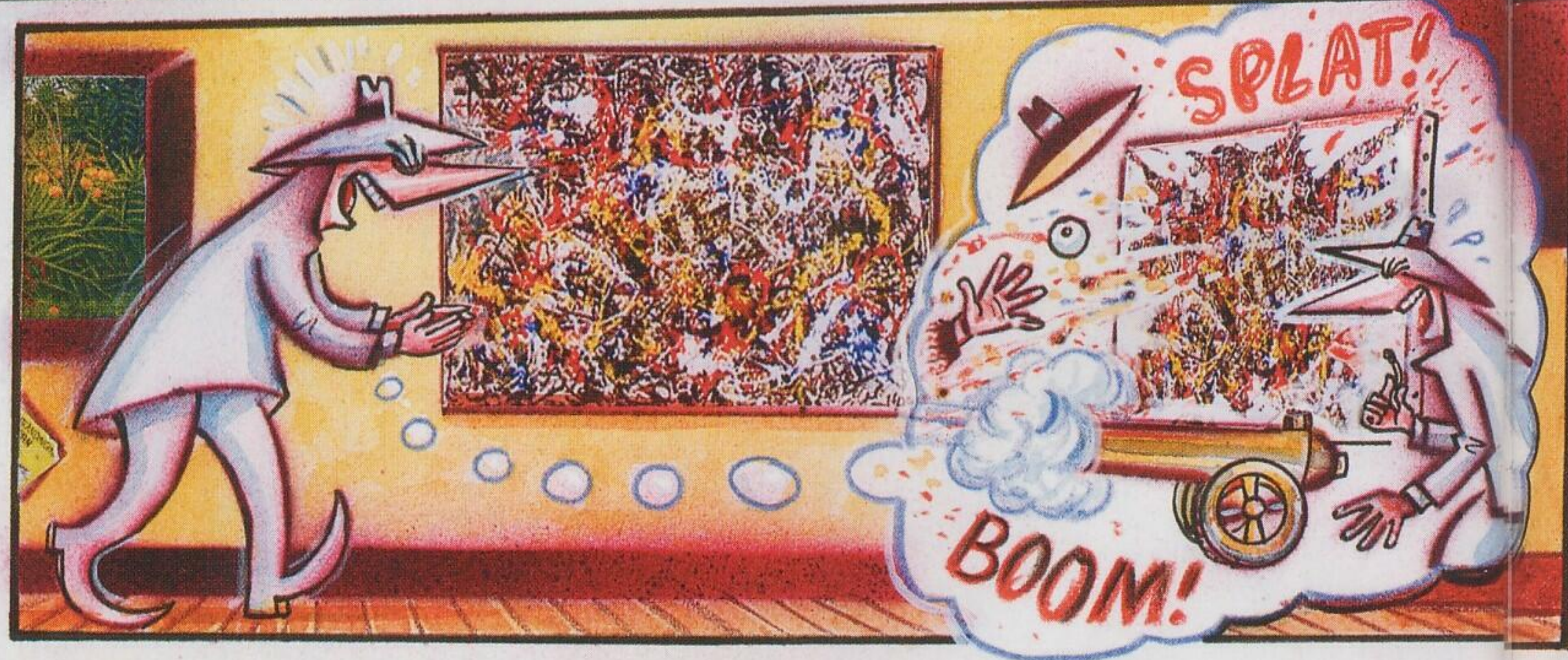
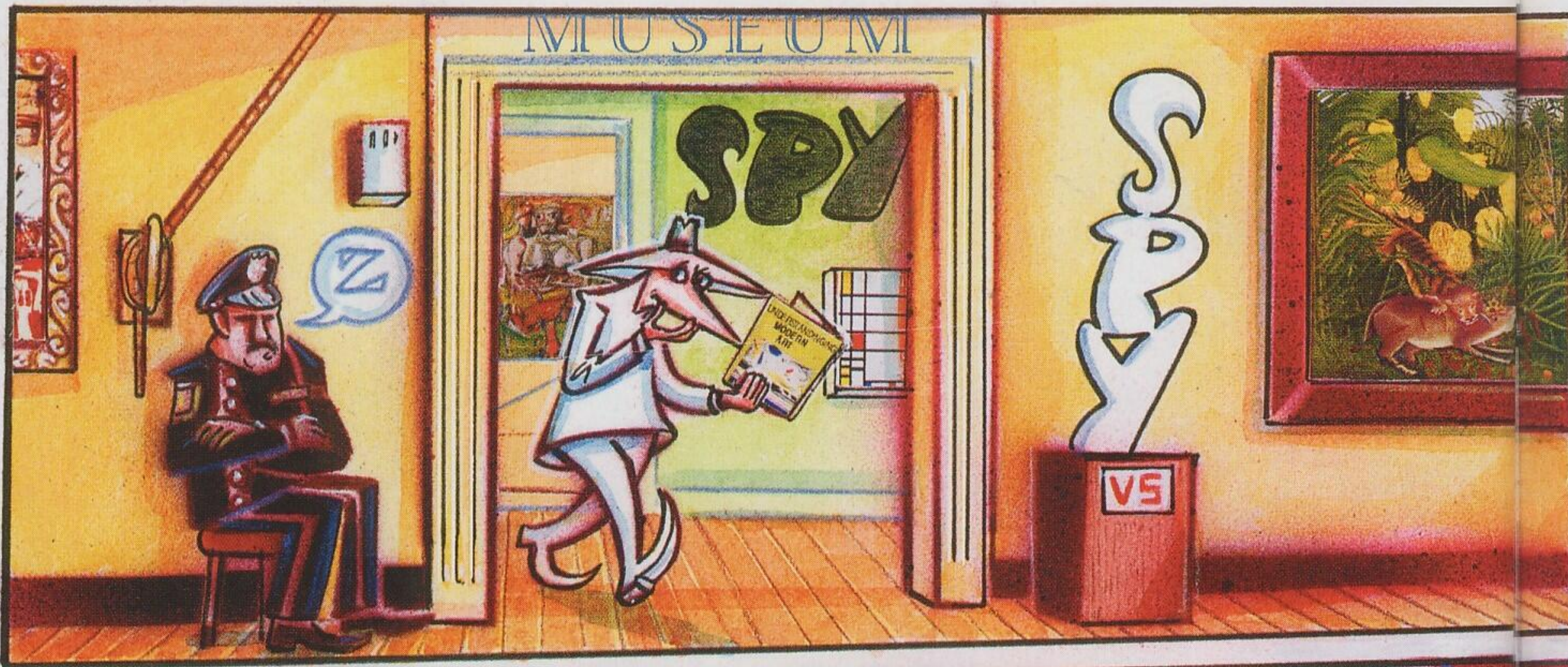


[31 May|07:06pm]

[mood| completely panicked]

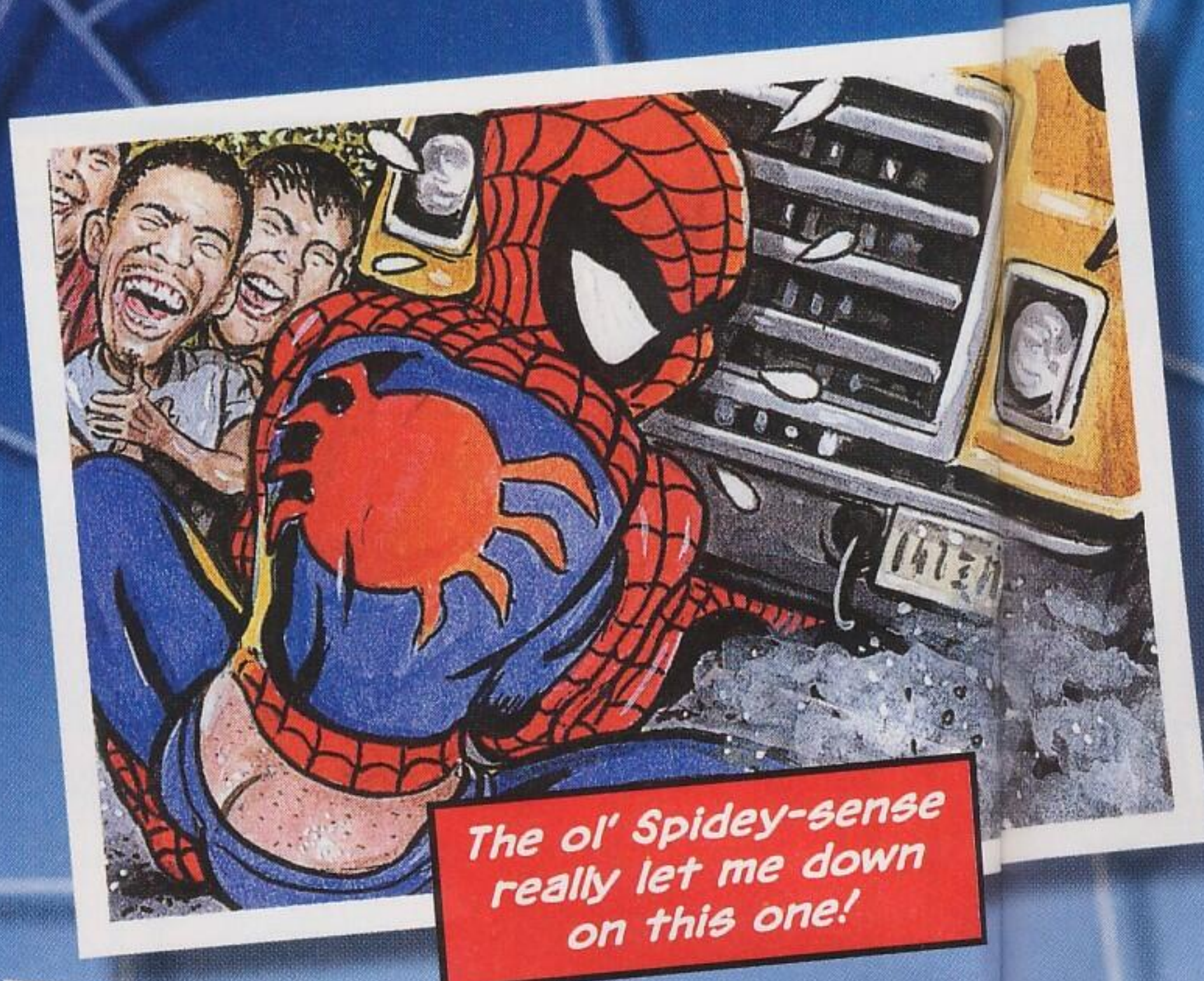
I'm so screwed. I just spent a few hours on **Wikipedia**, trying to find out how to repair digital cameras. Here's what I learned: It's pretty much impossible to repair digital cameras.

This is a pretty sucky way to end a month. Suffice it to say, by the next time you check my blog, I'll either have come up with a solution, or be dead by Kevin's hand. It's one or the other. I'll write more later...(I hope!)



Everyone knows that crime doesn't pay — but what they don't tell you is that neither does superheroics! That's why superheroes have day jobs to pay the bills — Clark Kent's a reporter, Peter Parker's a photographer, and Thor, of course, is a Sears-authorized licensed contractor. But even with a job, a payday is not guaranteed! For every shot of Spider-Man that Peter Parker cashes in on, there are still...

PHOTOS PETER PARKER COULDN'T SELL TO THE DAILY BUGLE



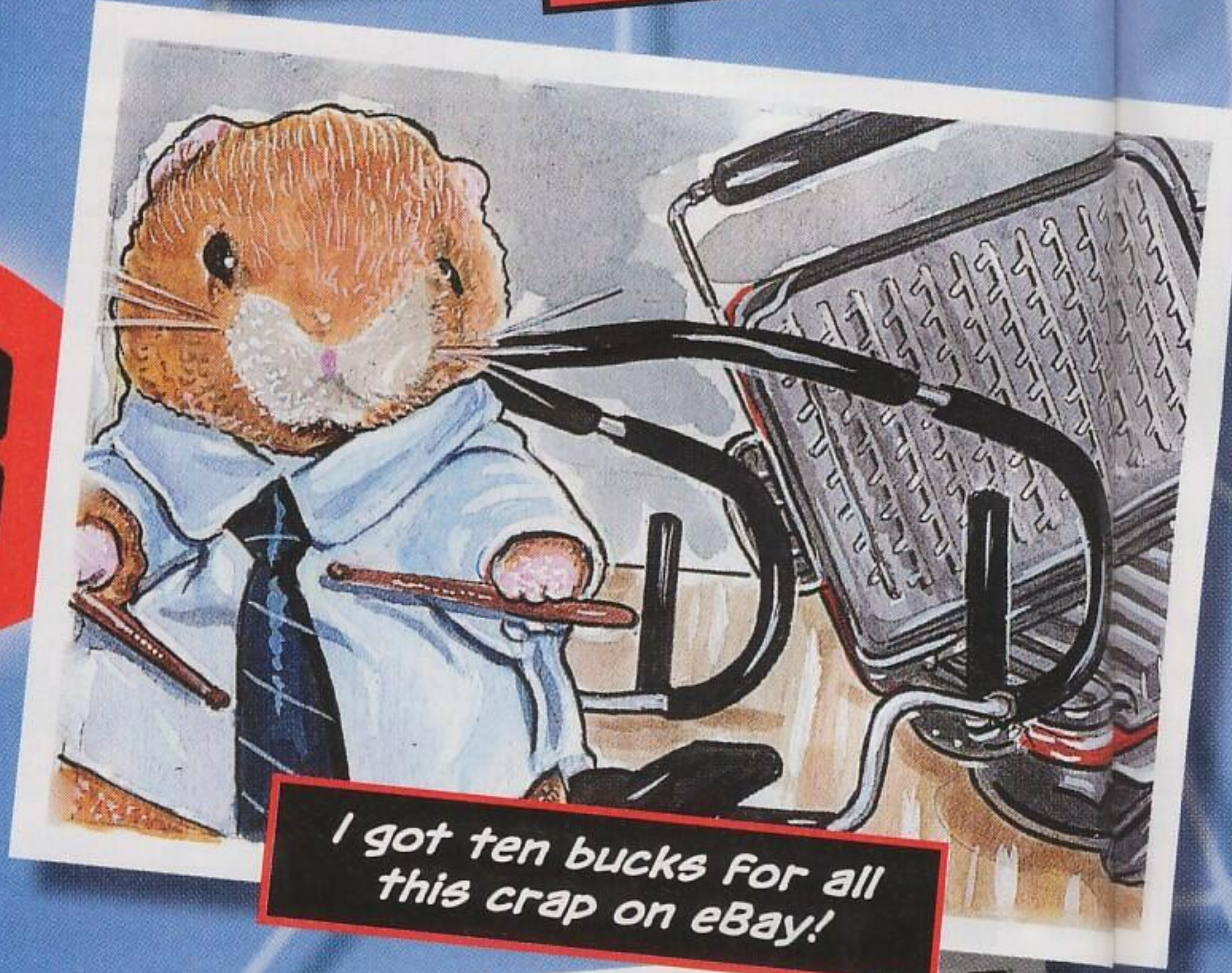
The ol' Spidey-sense really let me down on this one!



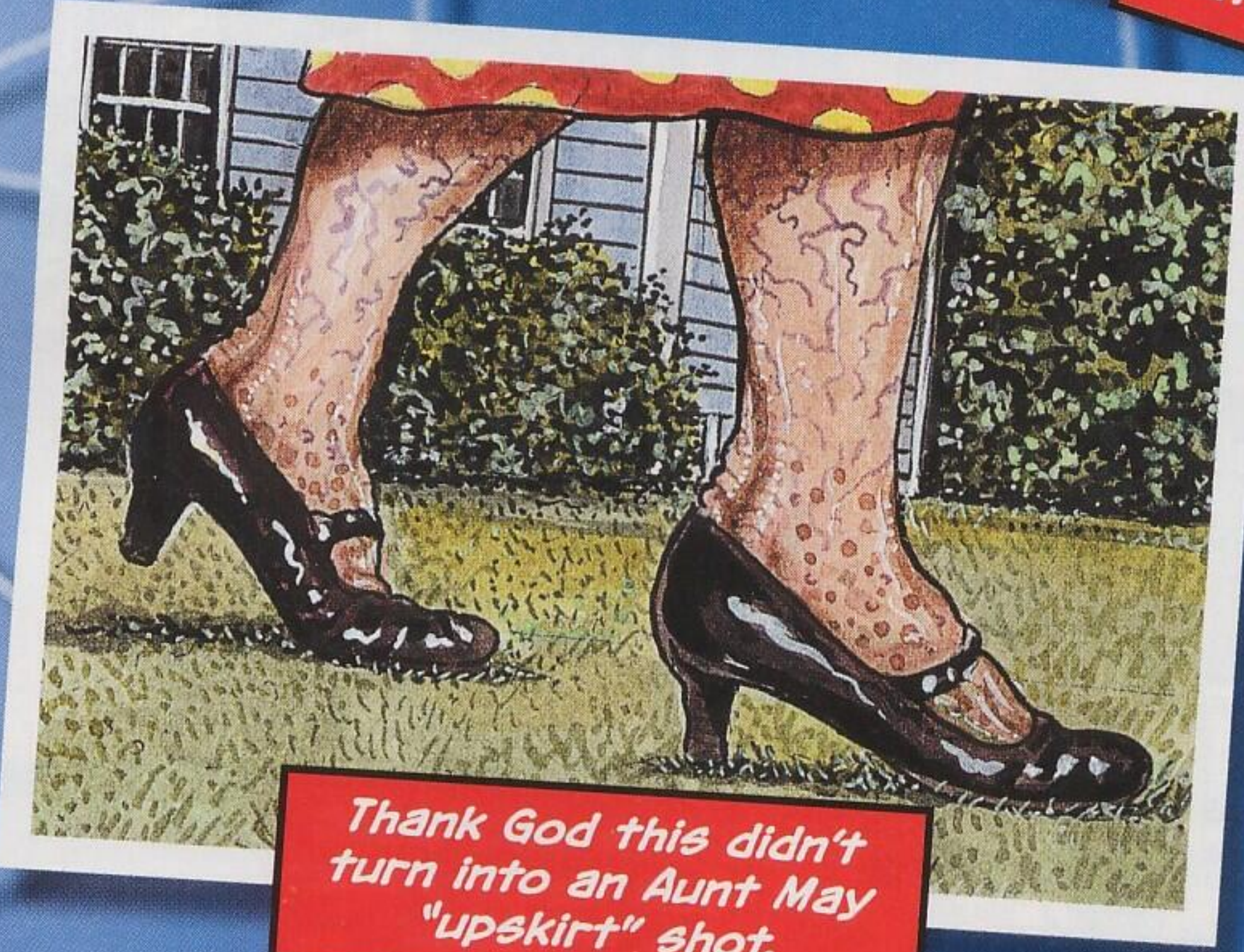
Damn stray dog!



Bah — stupid "hood hair"!



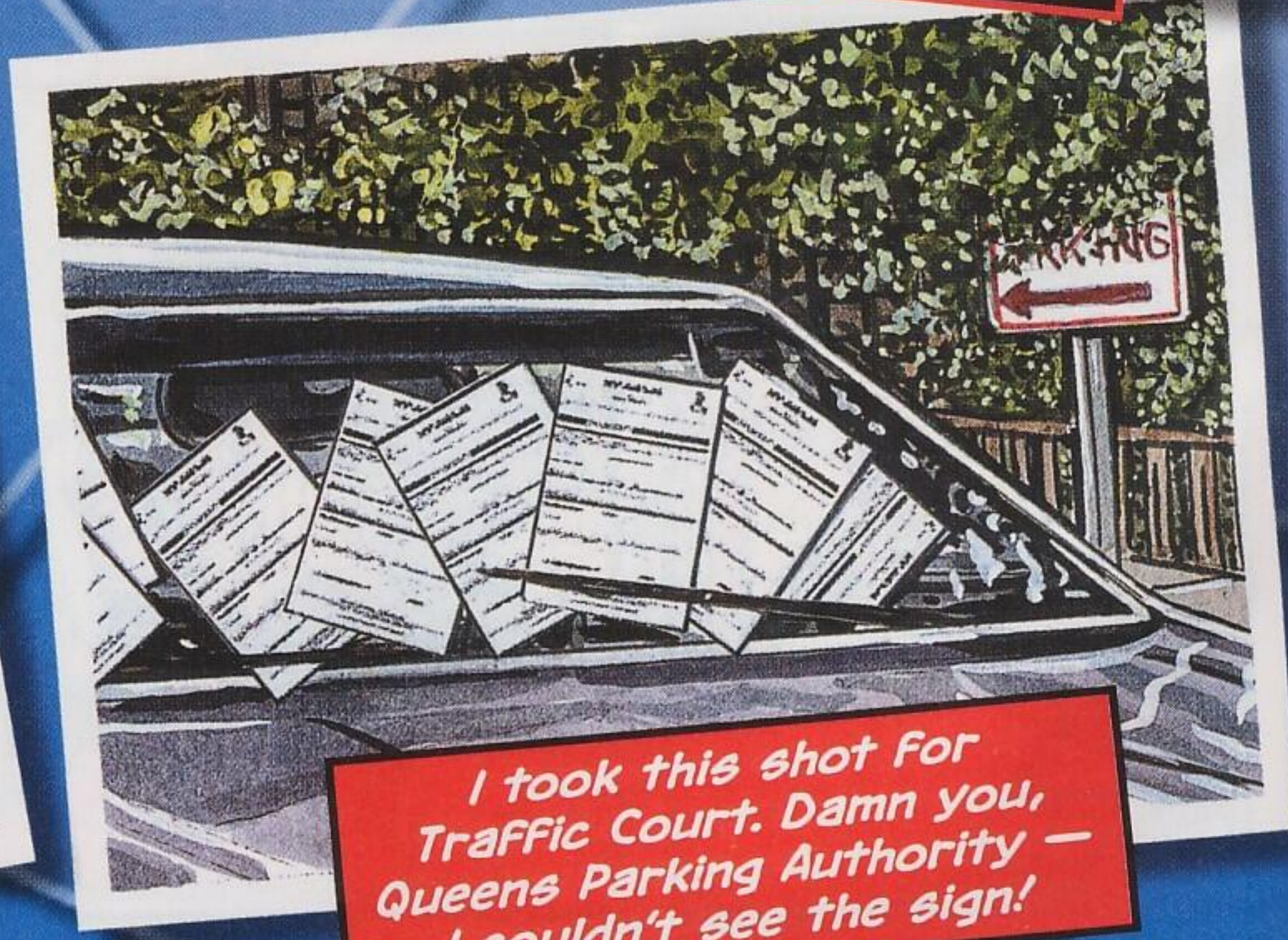
I got ten bucks for all this crap on eBay!



Thank God this didn't turn into an Aunt May "upskirt" shot.



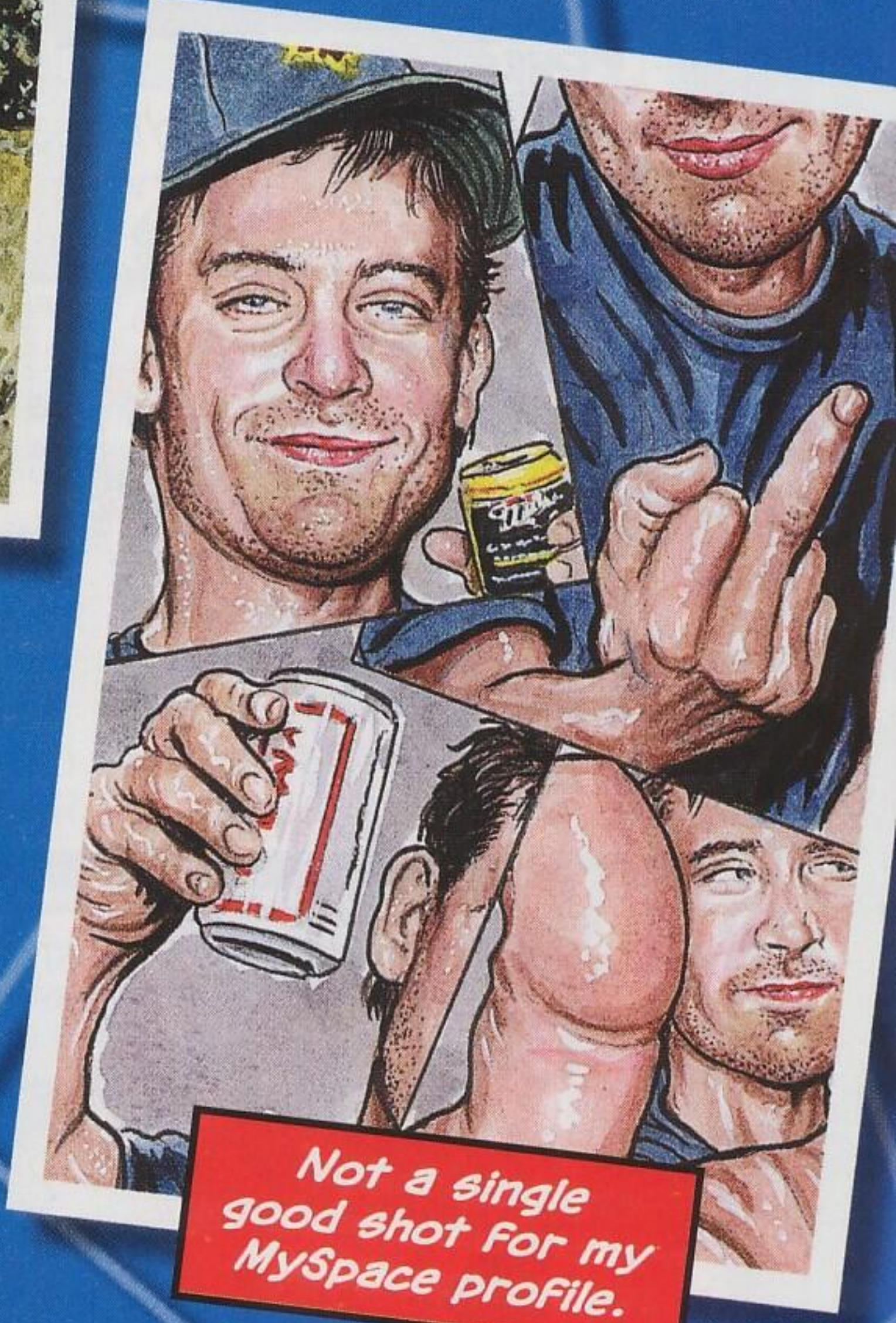
Thanks a lot, Wong's Dry Cleaning! Where the hell is my mask?



I took this shot for Traffic Court. Damn you, Queens Parking Authority — I couldn't see the sign!



Once again, I totally cleaned up on Halloween!



Not a single good shot for my MySpace profile.

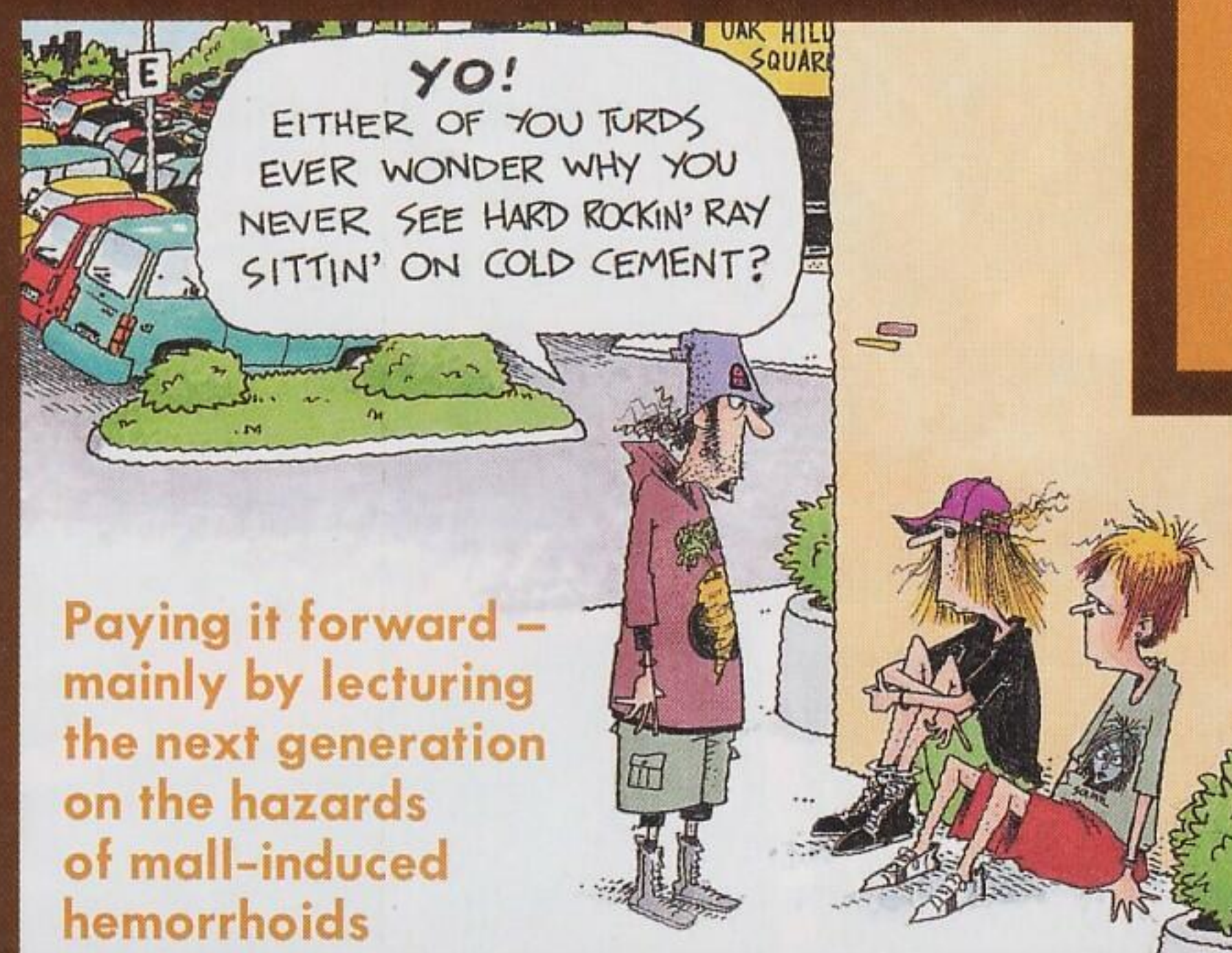


THE OLD MAN AND THE CVS DEPT.

Is there anything in the world better than just hanging out with your friends all day at the mall? Not when you're a teenager! The problem arises when you're 50 and still spend your day leaning over the second floor railing hocking loogies at unsuspecting shoppers. You don't want to be that guy! Or maybe you do...But before you decide, put down that shirt you just lifted from Hot Topic and read...

JOHN CALDWELL'S

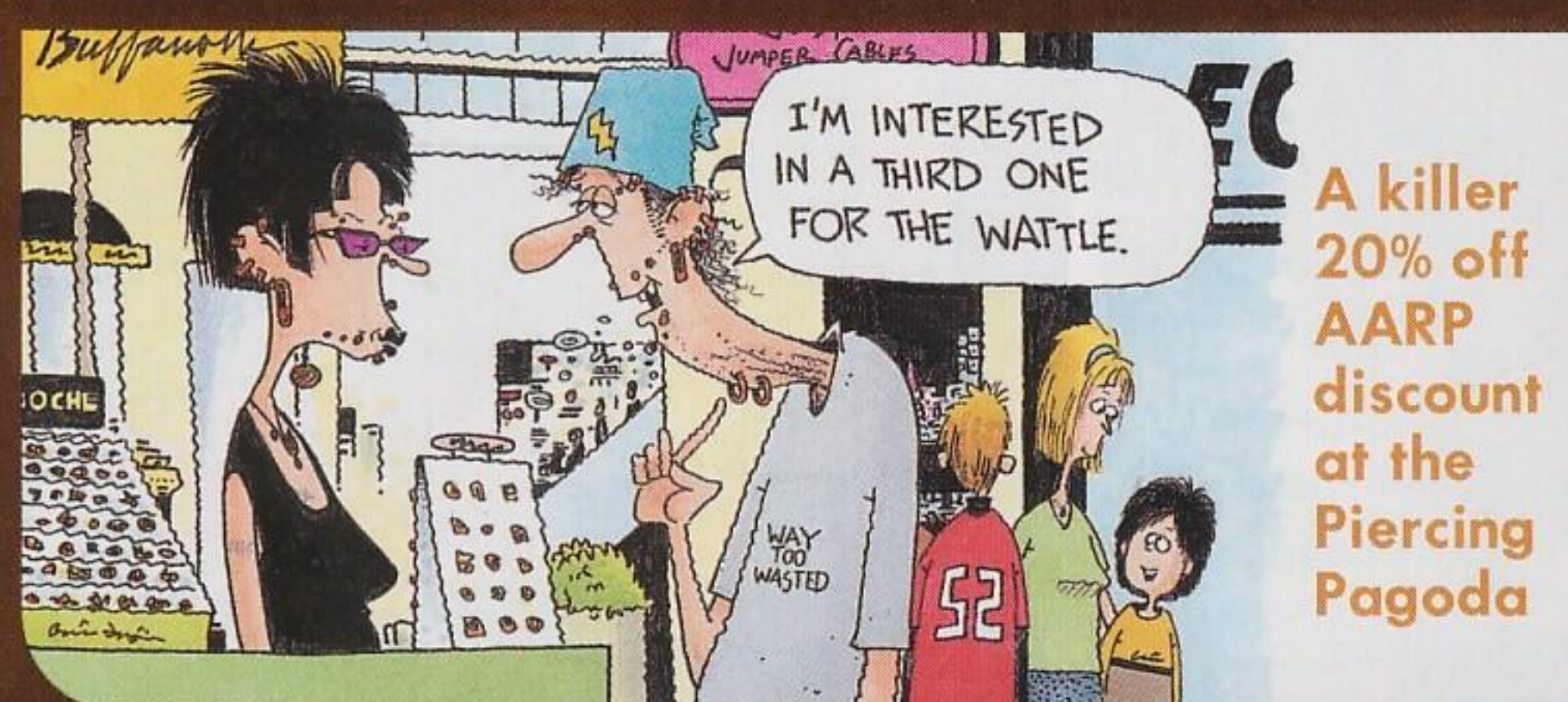
WHAT YOU HAVE TO LOOK FORWARD TO AS A MIDDLE-AGED MALL RAT



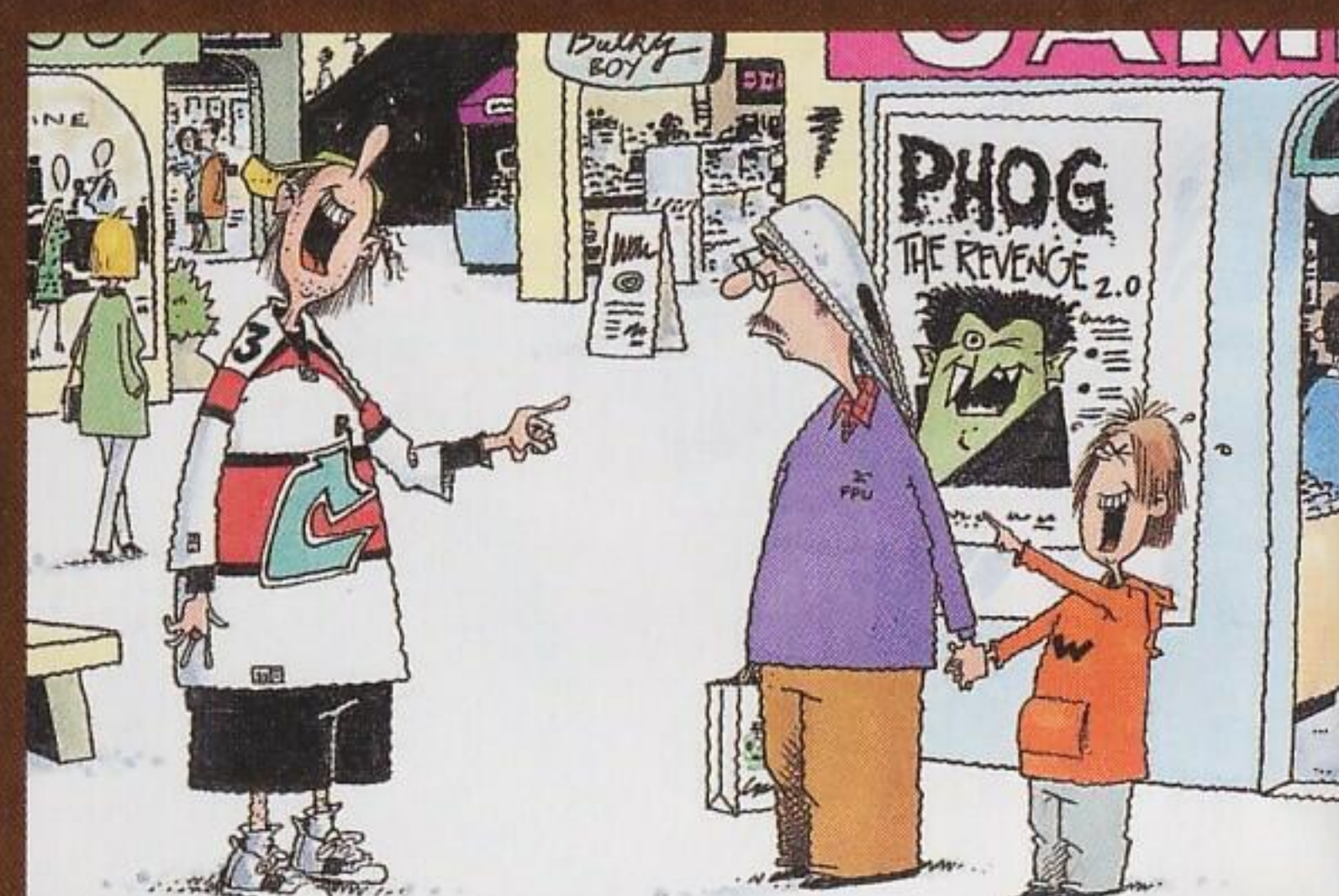
Paying it forward – mainly by lecturing the next generation on the hazards of mall-induced hemorrhoids



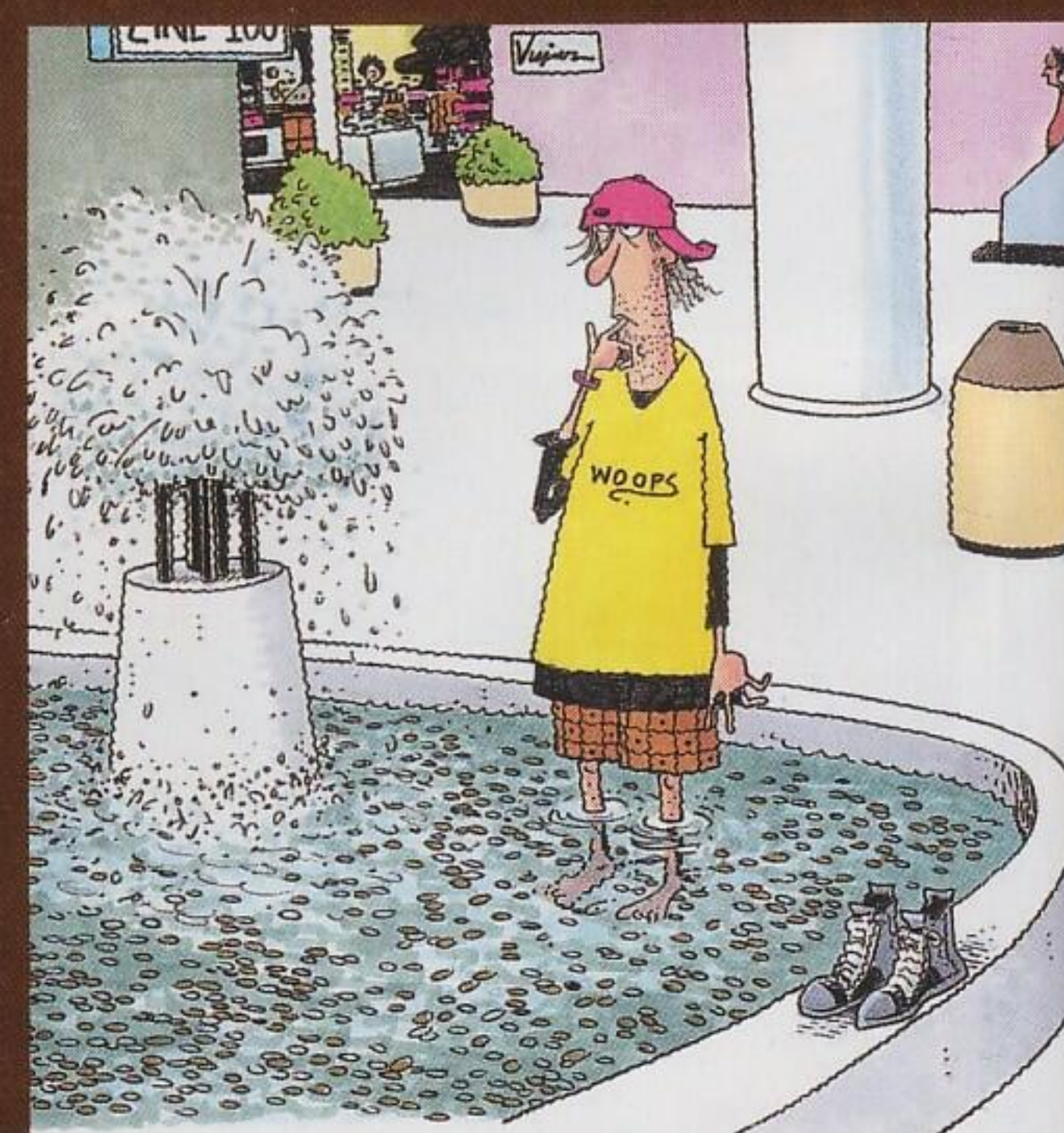
Regularly visiting the "Free Cholesterol Check" kiosk to make sure you still have the high score



A killer 20% off AARP discount at the Piercing Pagoda



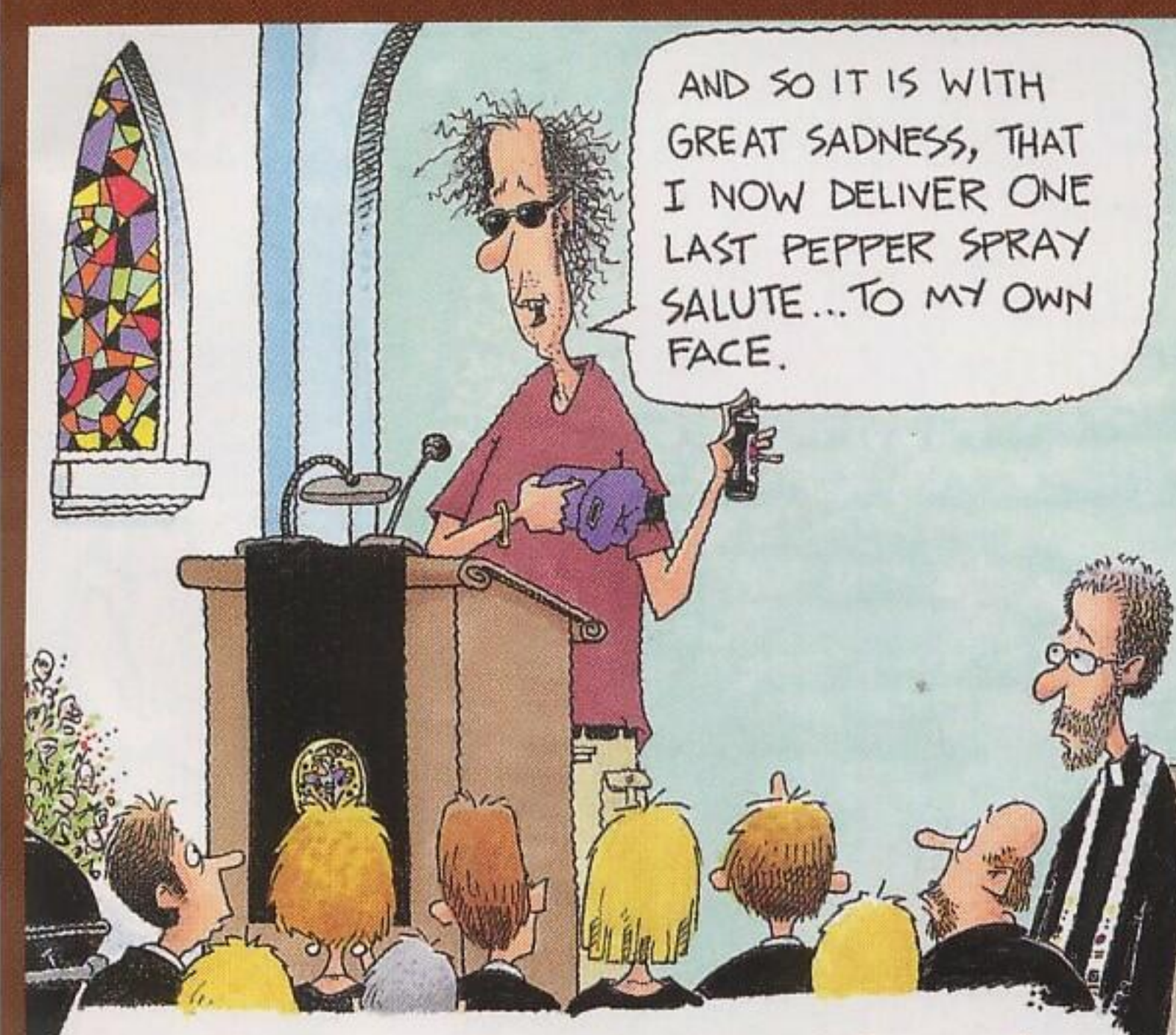
Planting monster wedgies on former classmates, whose only mistake is picking the mall as a nice place to take their grandson



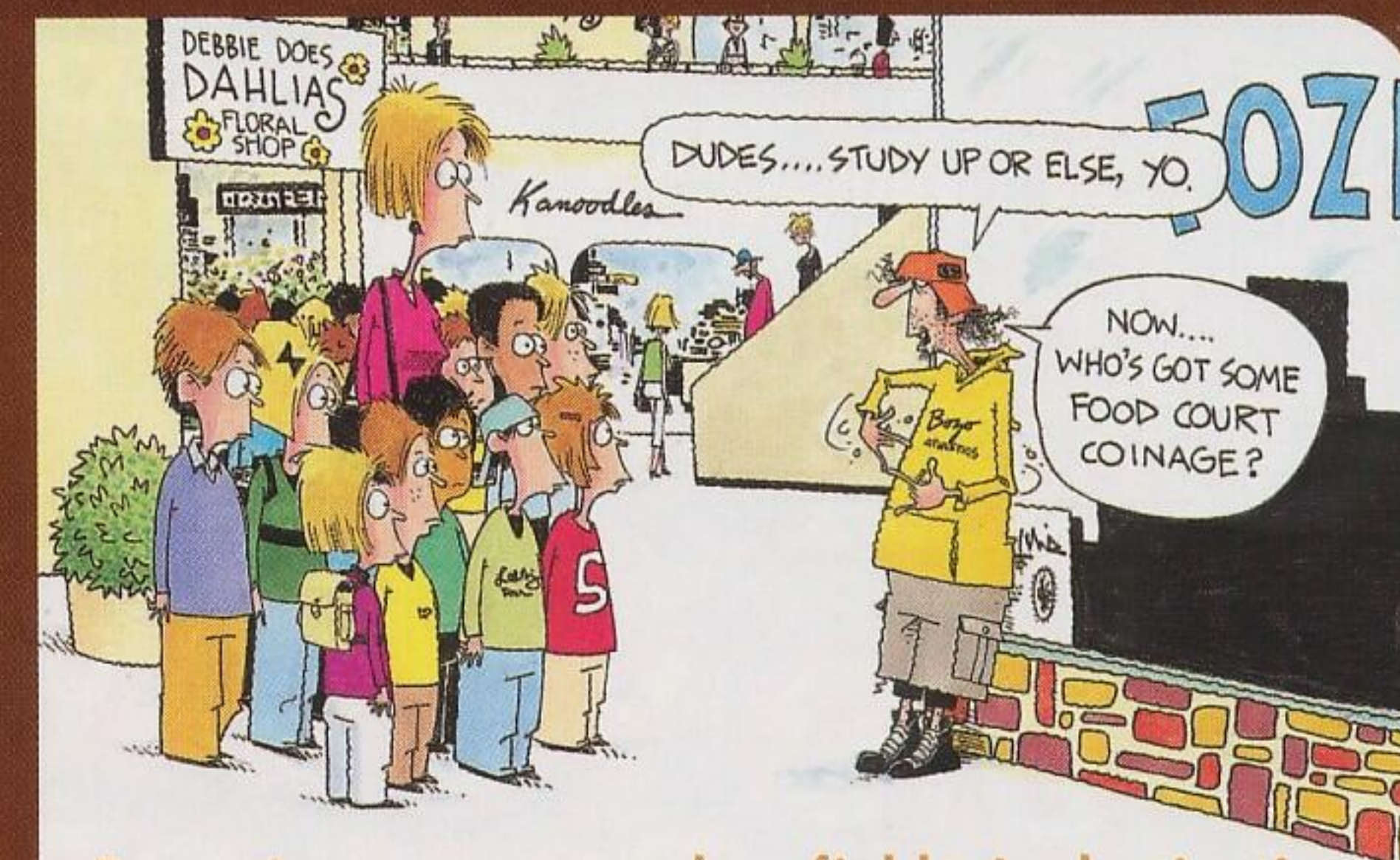
More and more, finding yourself stepping into the mall coin fountain and then forgetting why



Being in that awkward demographic – too old to outrun security and too young to blame your shoplifting on dementia



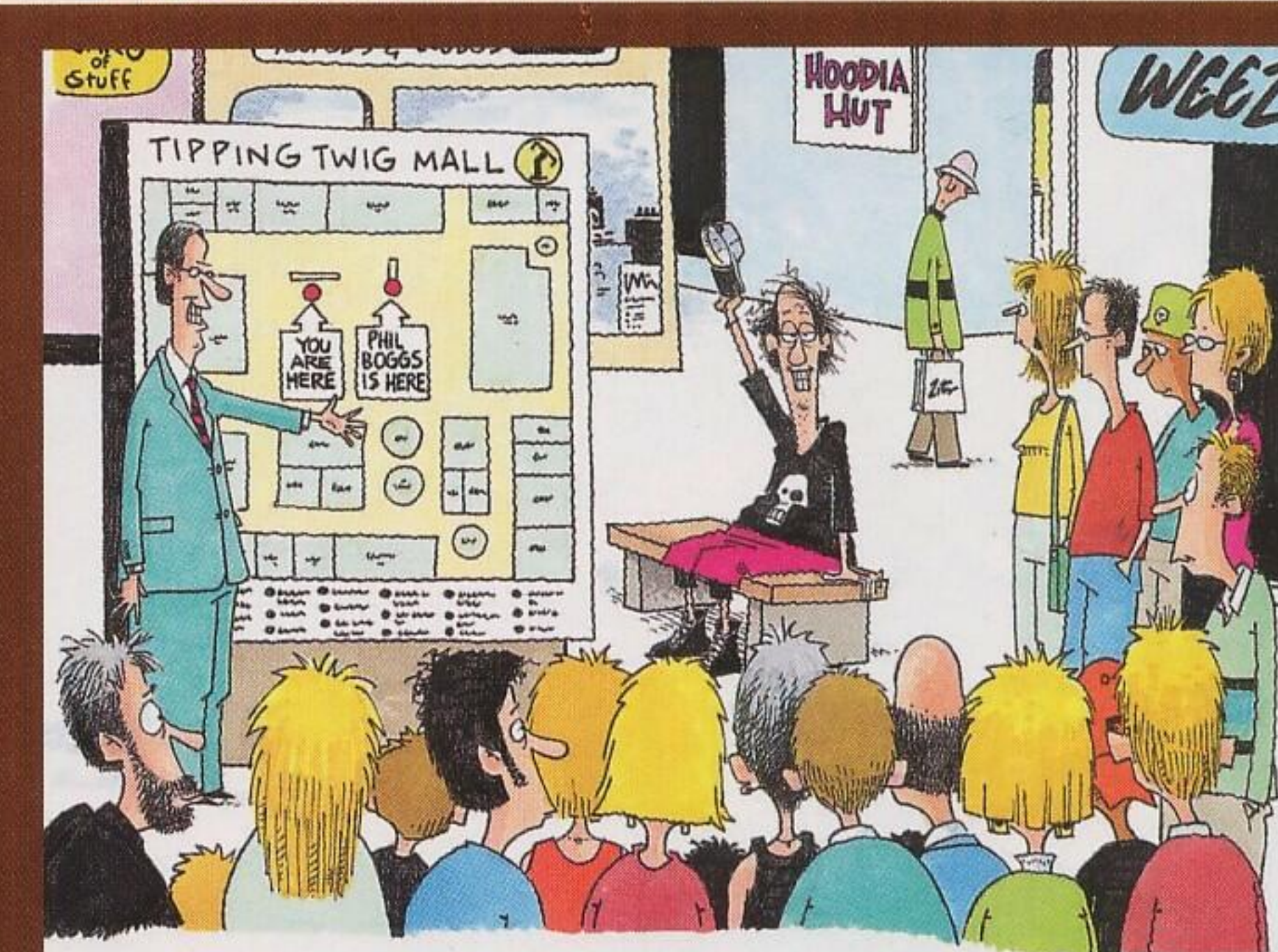
Being frequently asked to deliver the eulogy for yet another old mall security guard you've managed to outlive.



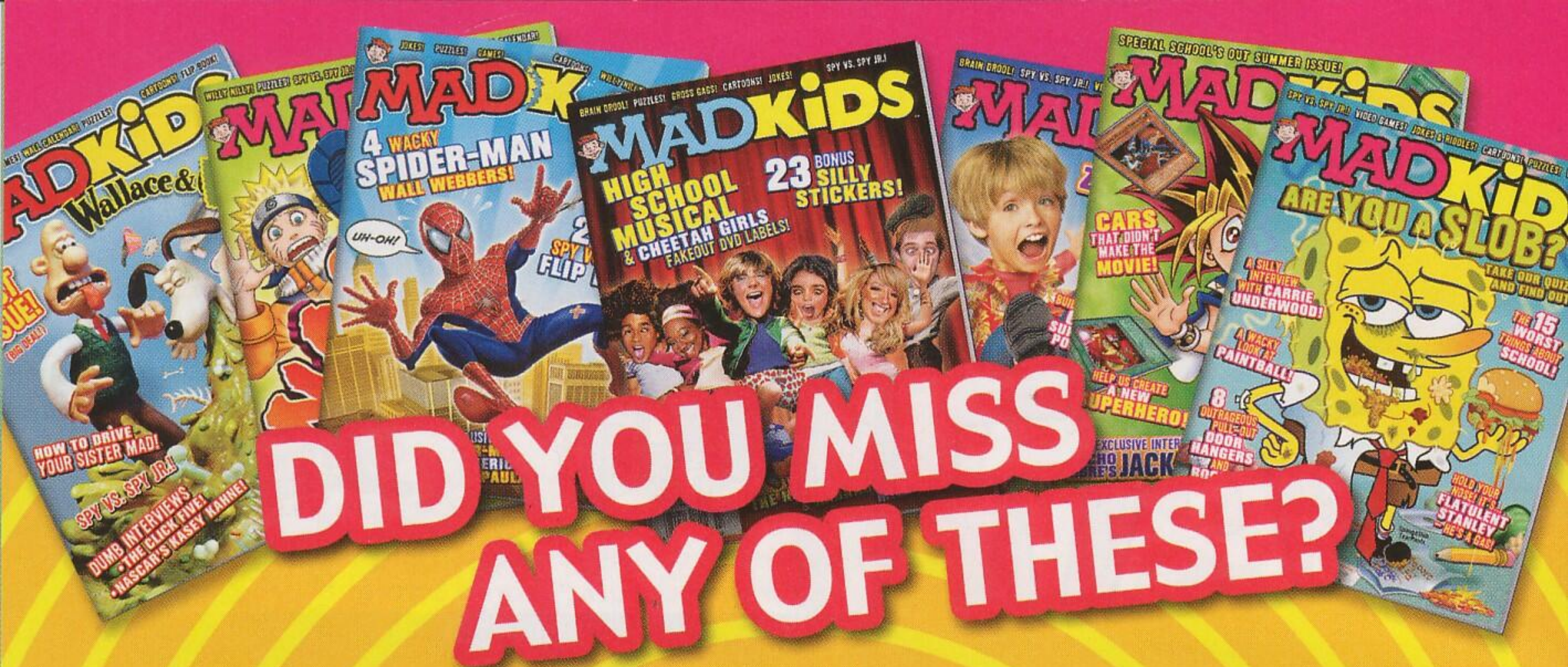
Becoming a one-man class field trip destination under the school's "Scared Straight" program



While the younger dudes are hitting on the Abercrombie hotties, having the mature babes of Williams-Sonoma all to yourself



Basking in the glory of being listed on the mall directory after having parked your ass in the same place for 35 straight years



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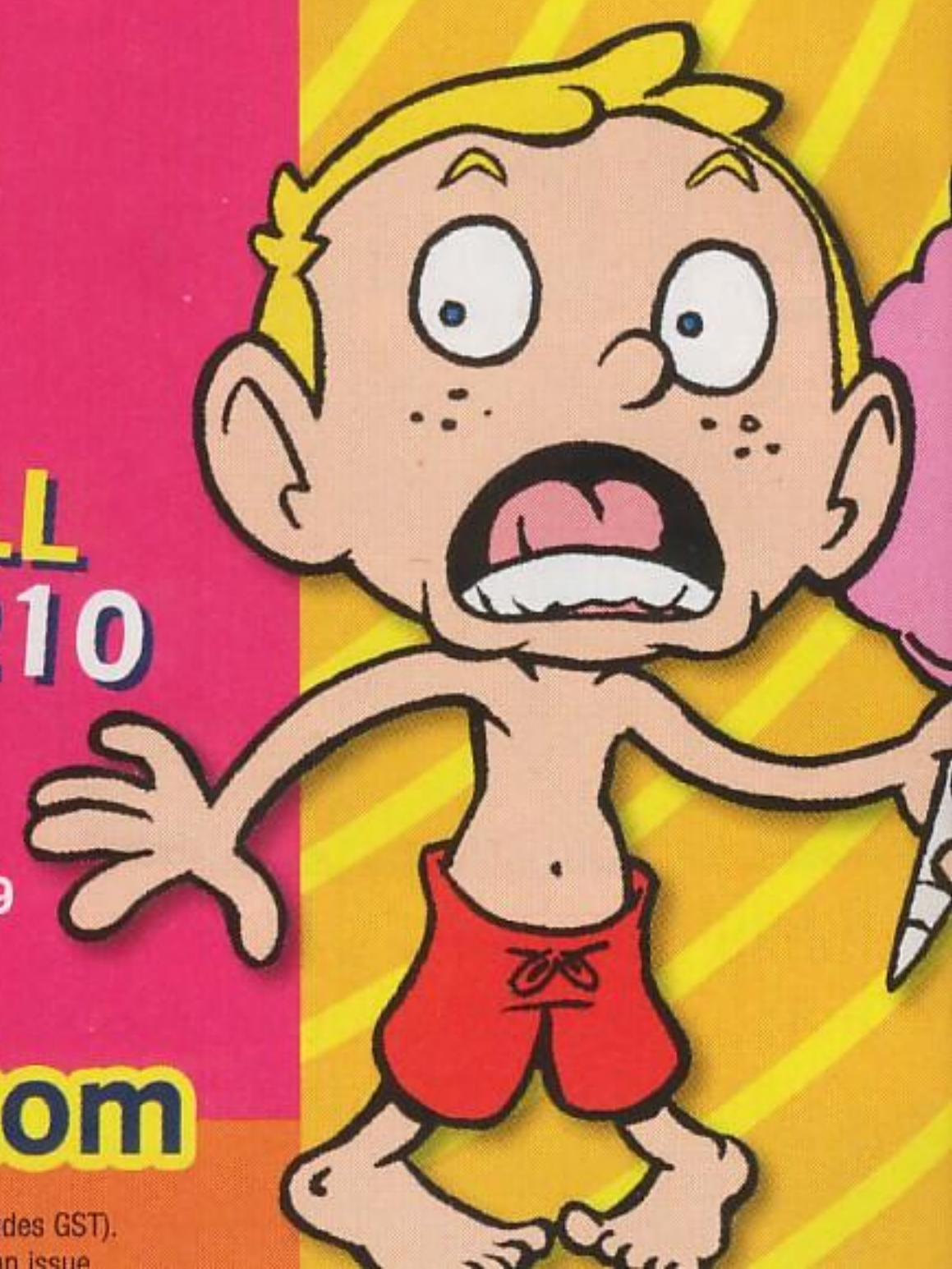
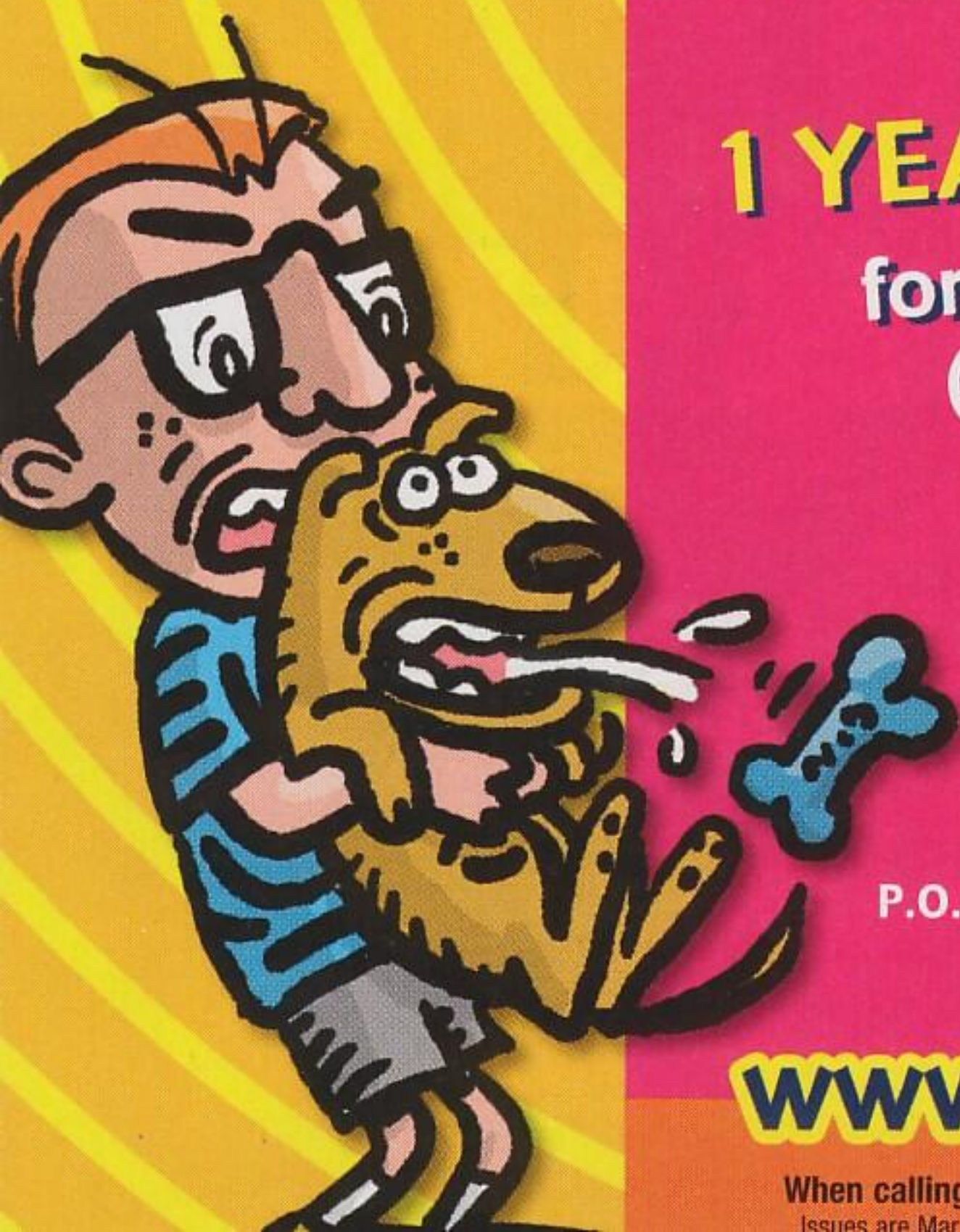
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FAKING THE LAW DEPT.

There's a popular TV reality show featuring a super-macho, self-proclaimed "bounty hunter" who tracks down dangerous fugitives and elusive criminals. There's only one problem – his dangerous fugitives aren't particularly dangerous, and his elusive criminals take about seven minutes each to track down. Who is this "fearless lawman"?

DUD

THE LOUSY HUNTER

I'm Brain "Dud" Choppedham, a.k.a. Dud the Lousy Hunter! I'm every fugitive's worst nightmare – and every Supercuts' worst nightmare, as you can see by my "Mullet From Hell"! I've never gone after a dangerous criminal I didn't bring in – mainly because I've never gone after a dangerous criminal! But that jaywalker over there? His ass is grass!

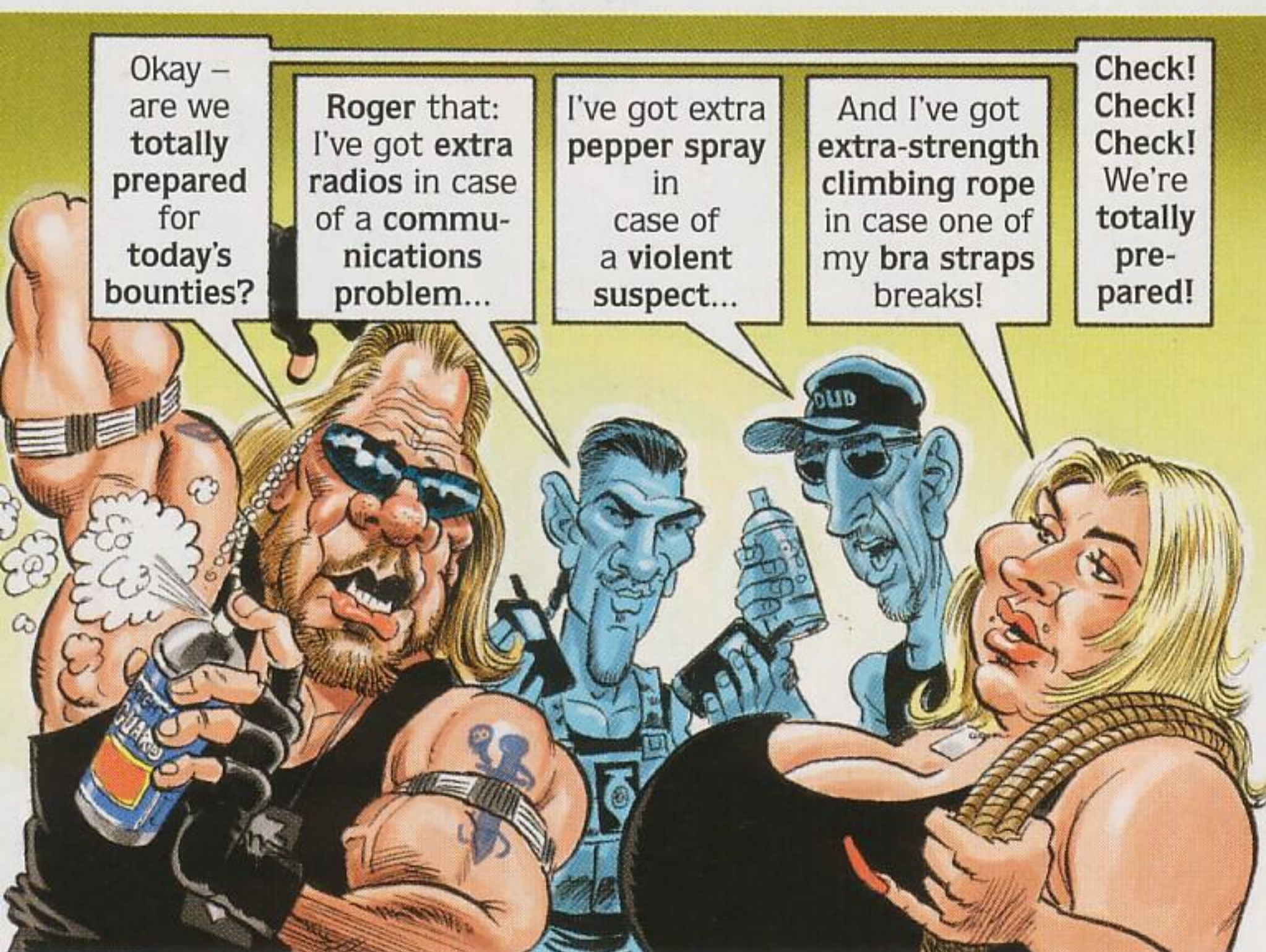
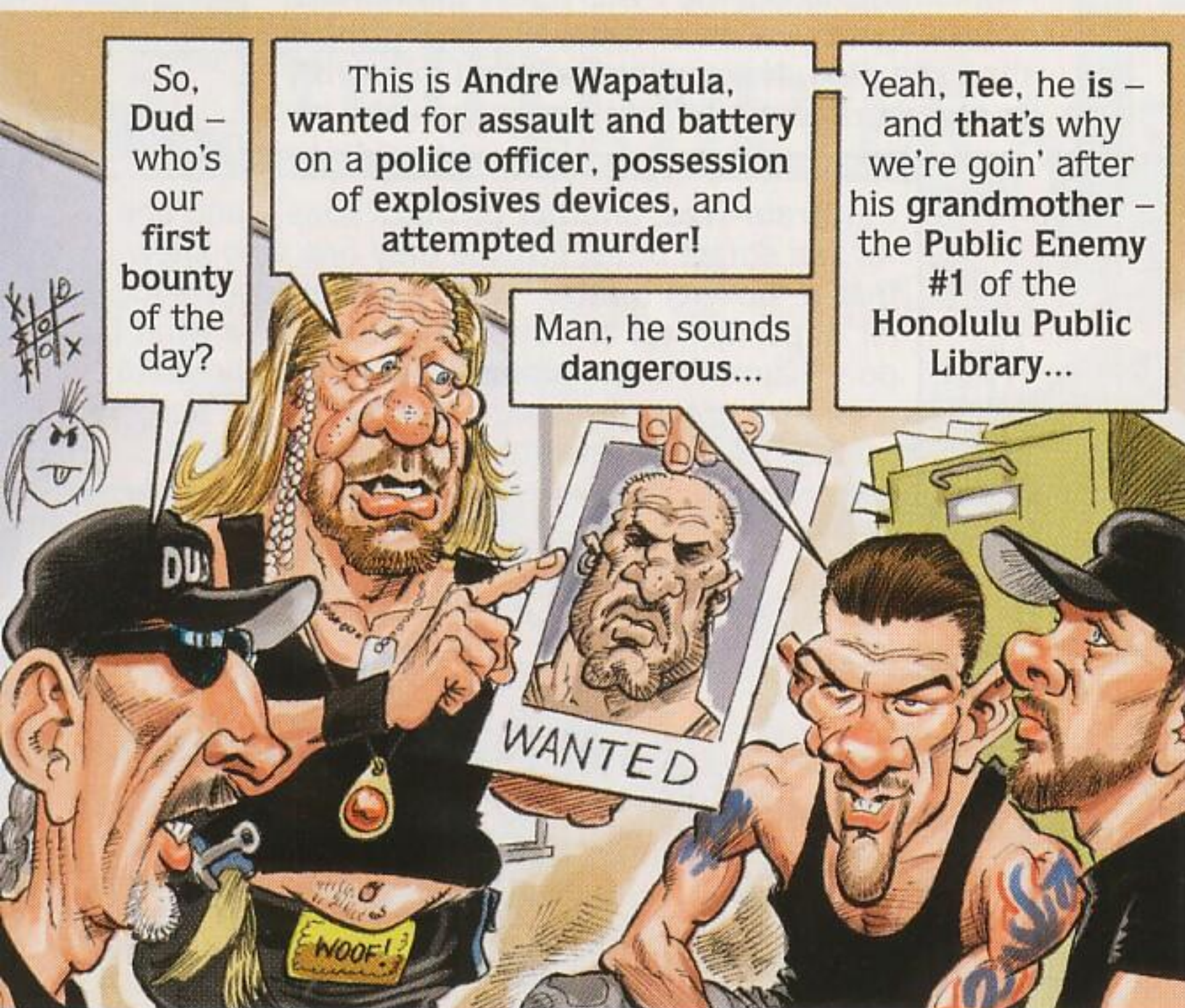
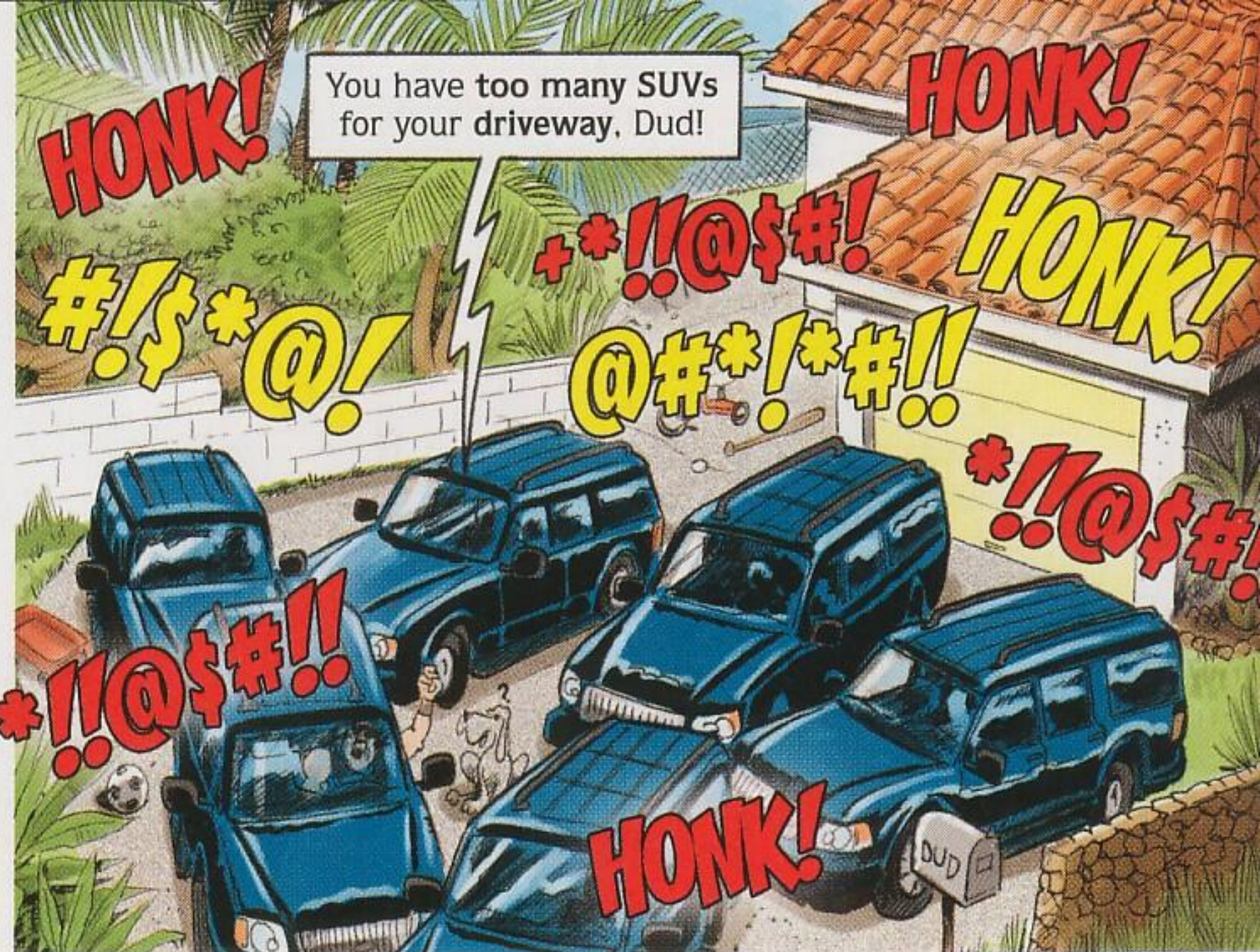
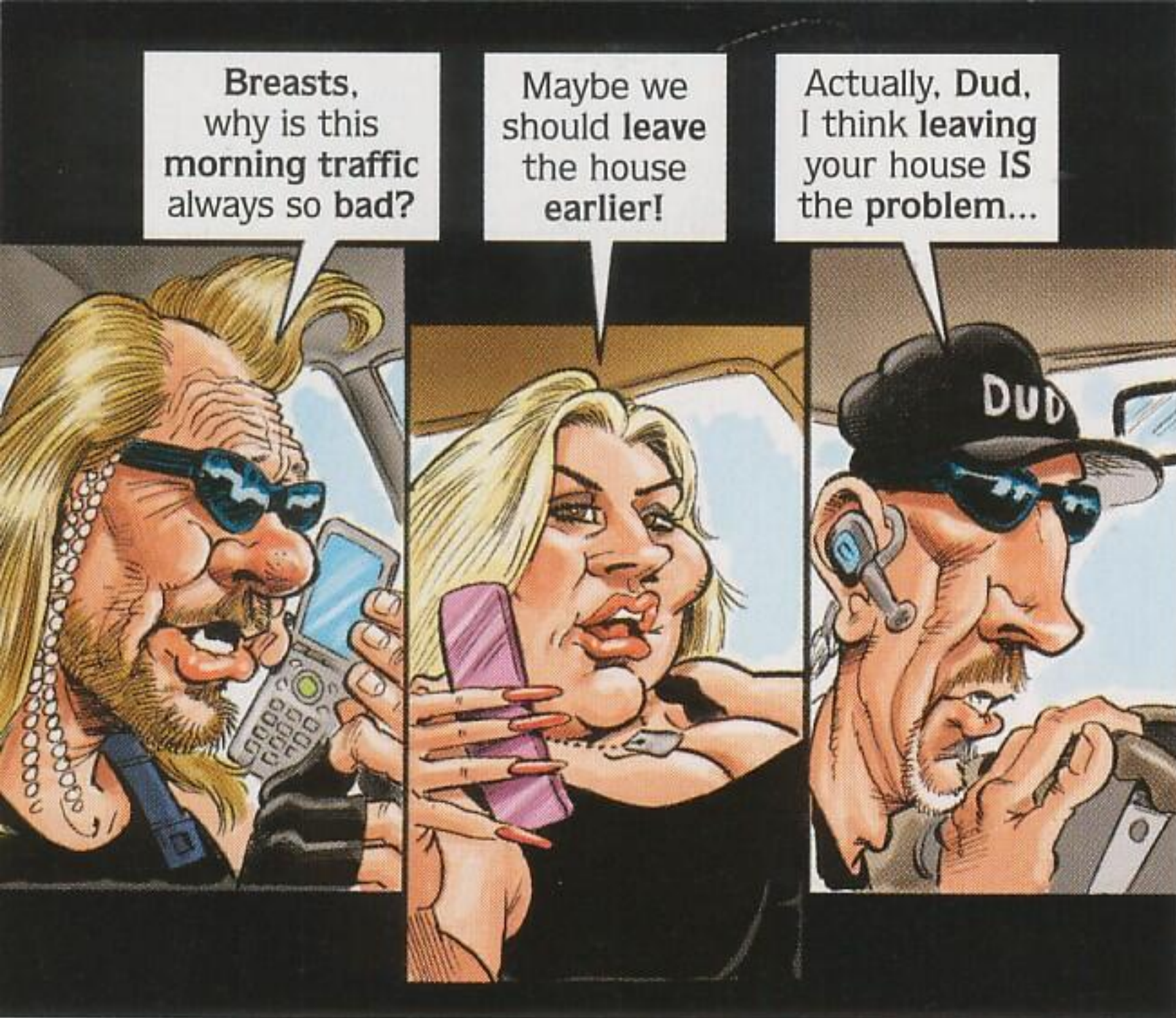
I'm Teeveeland – one of Dud's nine sons, and proud of it. I got tattoos like my dad, I cuss like my dad, I've been in jail like my dad and now I'm a bounty hunter just like my dad! My dad's really proud of me – 'cause I'm my own man!

I'm Breasts – Dud's big and beautiful wife! People used to tell me I was a less glamorous, less intelligent version of Anna Nicole Smith! But then she died. Now people tell me I'm *slightly* more glamorous and intelligent than she is!

I'm Brain-Free, another of Dud's sons – and one of the smart ones! I'm the *only* one who knew that a "bounty hunter" wasn't somebody looking for paper towels in a supermarket! I love what I do – 'cause I'm also smart enough to appreciate what a great gig living in Hawaii is! For one thing, you're always running into celebrities...

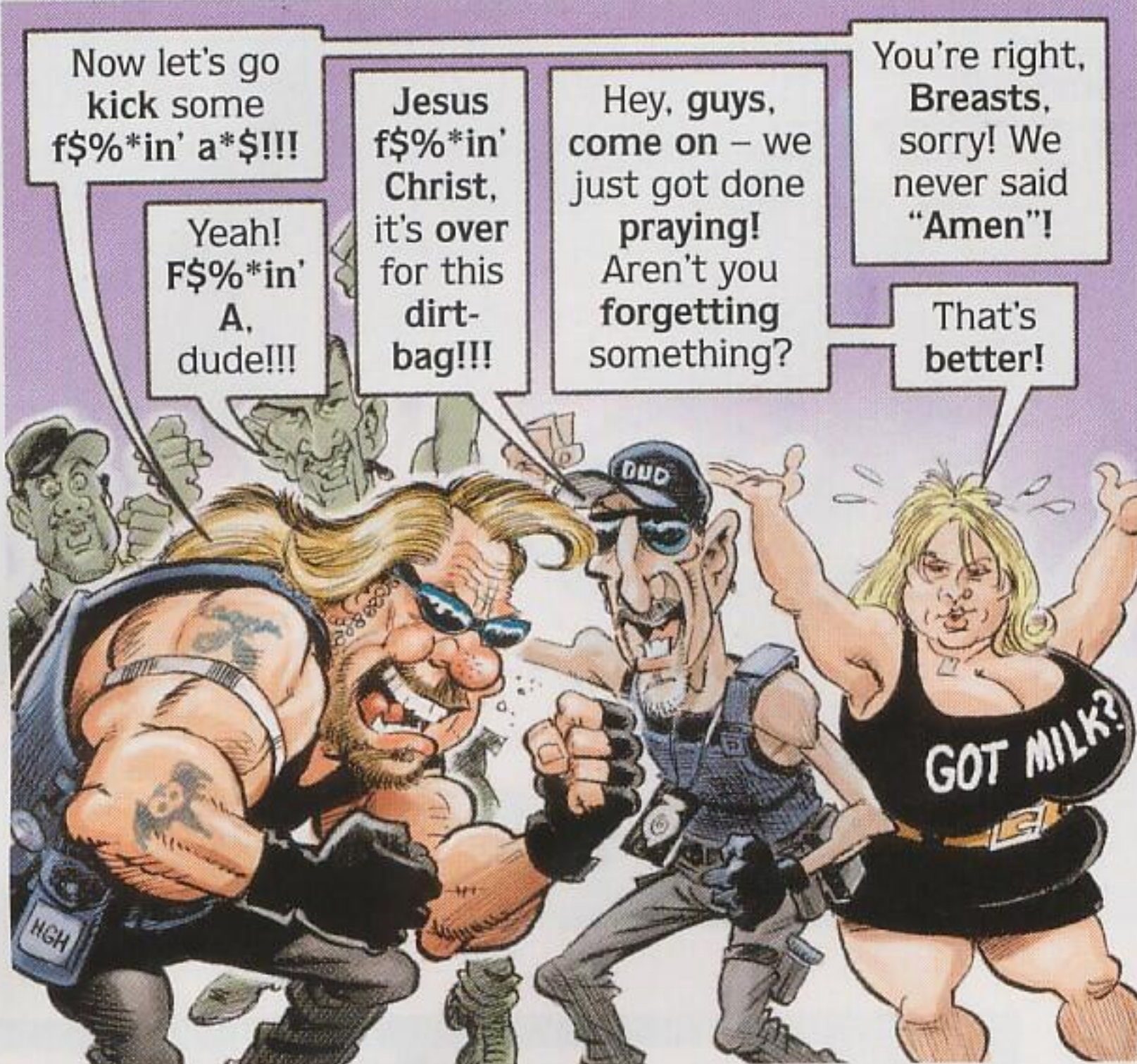
Today we're on the right side of the law, chasing crooks and making 'em pay! How do we make 'em pay? Mainly, we humiliate 'em – by making them appear on this hokey cops and robbers reality show! Obviously, here in Hawaii, there are no laws against cruel and unusual punishment!

I'm Ozzy Osbourne and I'm here to thank Dud for letting me sing the theme song to his show... and for having such a low-rent, white trash family that it makes MY family look like the model of quiet dignity!





PLASTIC SURGERY



Now let's go kick some f\$%*in' a*\$!!!

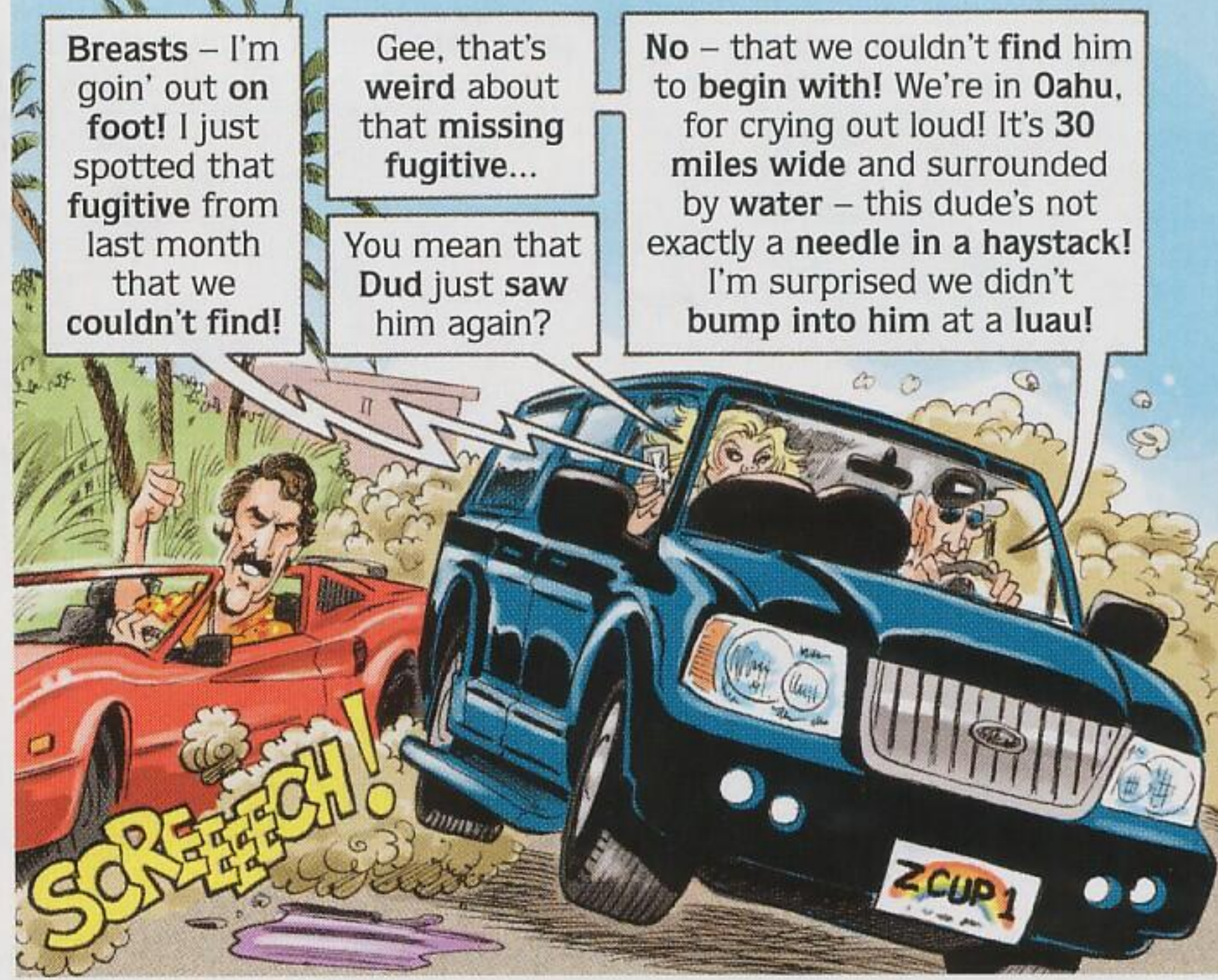
Yeah! F\$%*in' A, dude!!!

Jesus f\$%*in' Christ, it's over for this dirt-bag!!!

Hey, guys, come on - we just got done praying! Aren't you forgetting something?

You're right, Breasts, sorry! We never said "Amen"!

That's better!

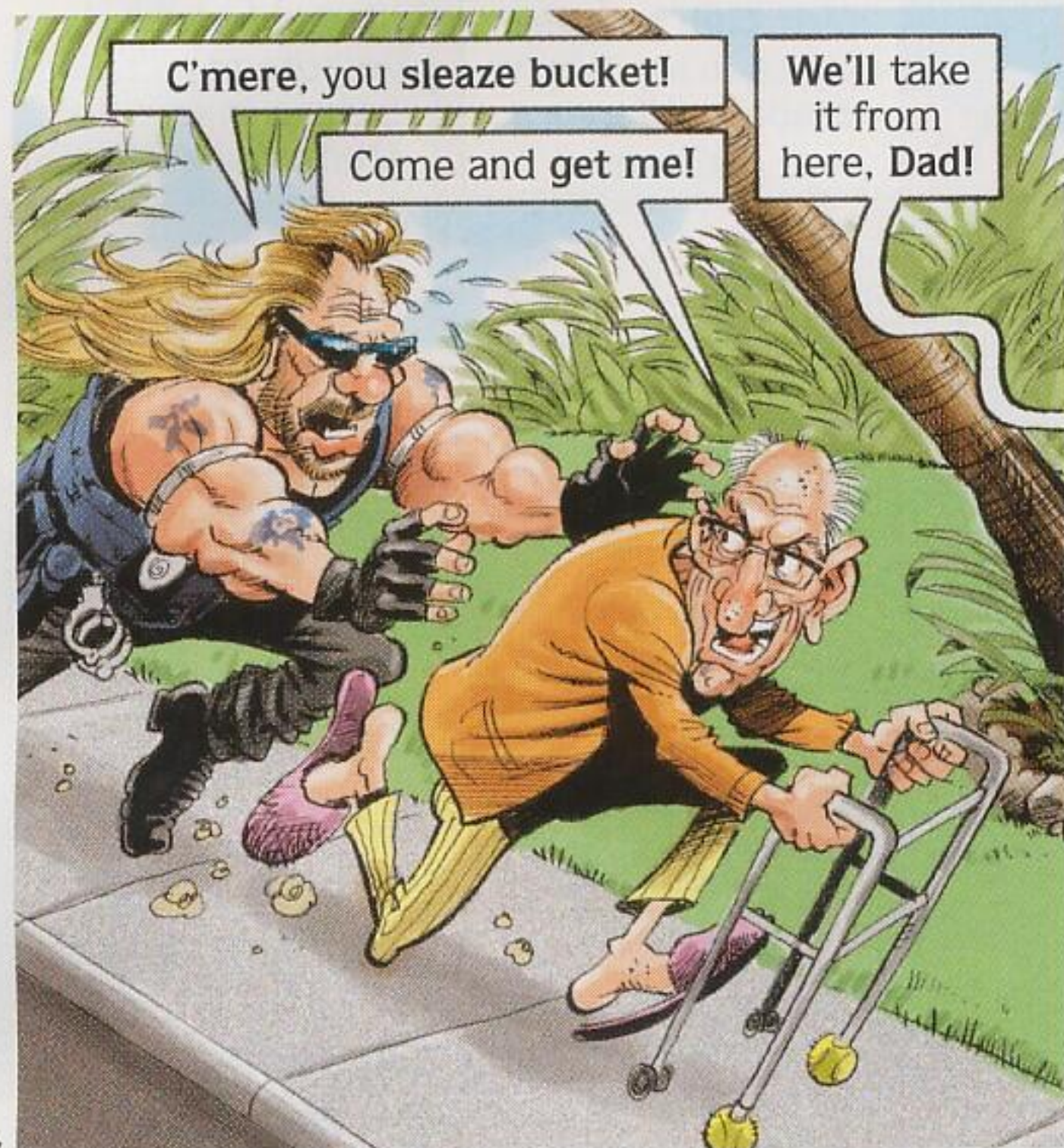


Breasts - I'm goin' out on foot! I just spotted that fugitive from last month that we couldn't find!

Gee, that's weird about that missing fugitive...

You mean that Dud just saw him again?

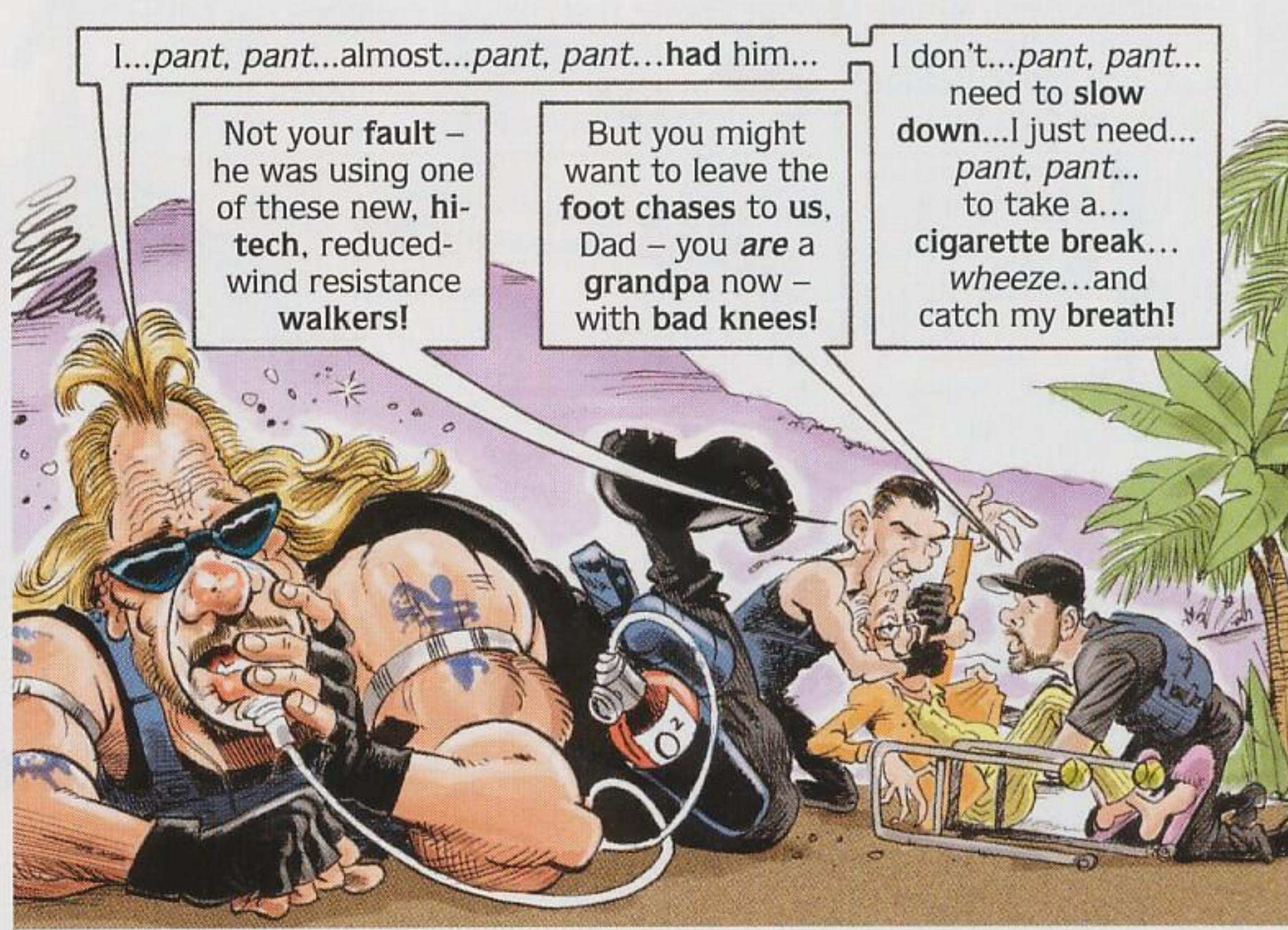
No - that we couldn't find him to begin with! We're in Oahu, for crying out loud! It's 30 miles wide and surrounded by water - this dude's not exactly a needle in a haystack! I'm surprised we didn't bump into him at a luau!



C'mere, you sleaze bucket!

Come and get me!

We'll take it from here, Dad!



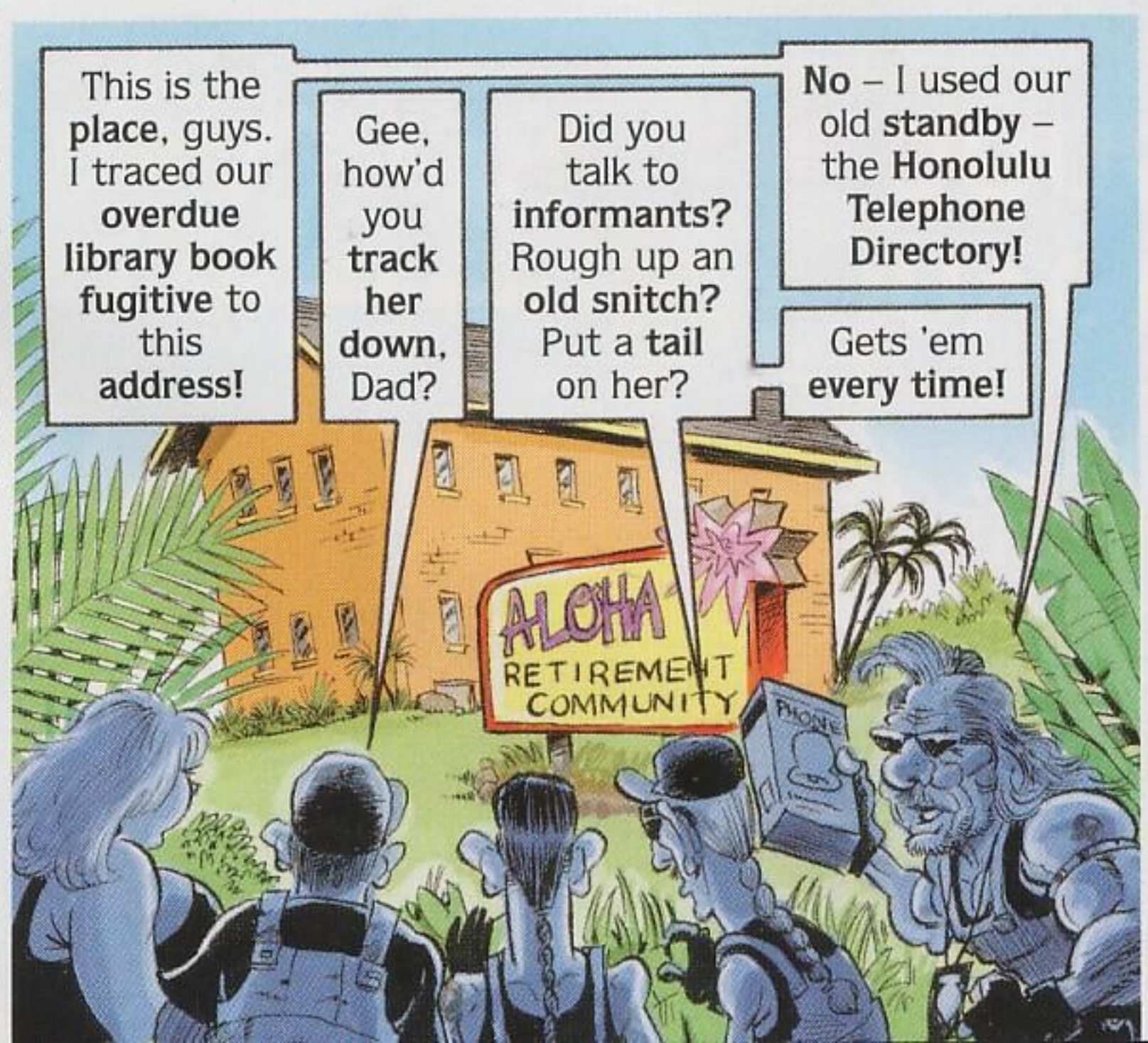
I...pant, pant...almost...pant, pant...had him...

Not your fault - he was using one of these new, hi-tech, reduced-wind resistance walkers!

But you might want to leave the foot chases to us, Dad - you are a grandpa now - with bad knees!

I don't...pant, pant...need to slow down...I just need...pant, pant...to take a...cigarette break...wheeze...and catch my breath!

TATTOOS



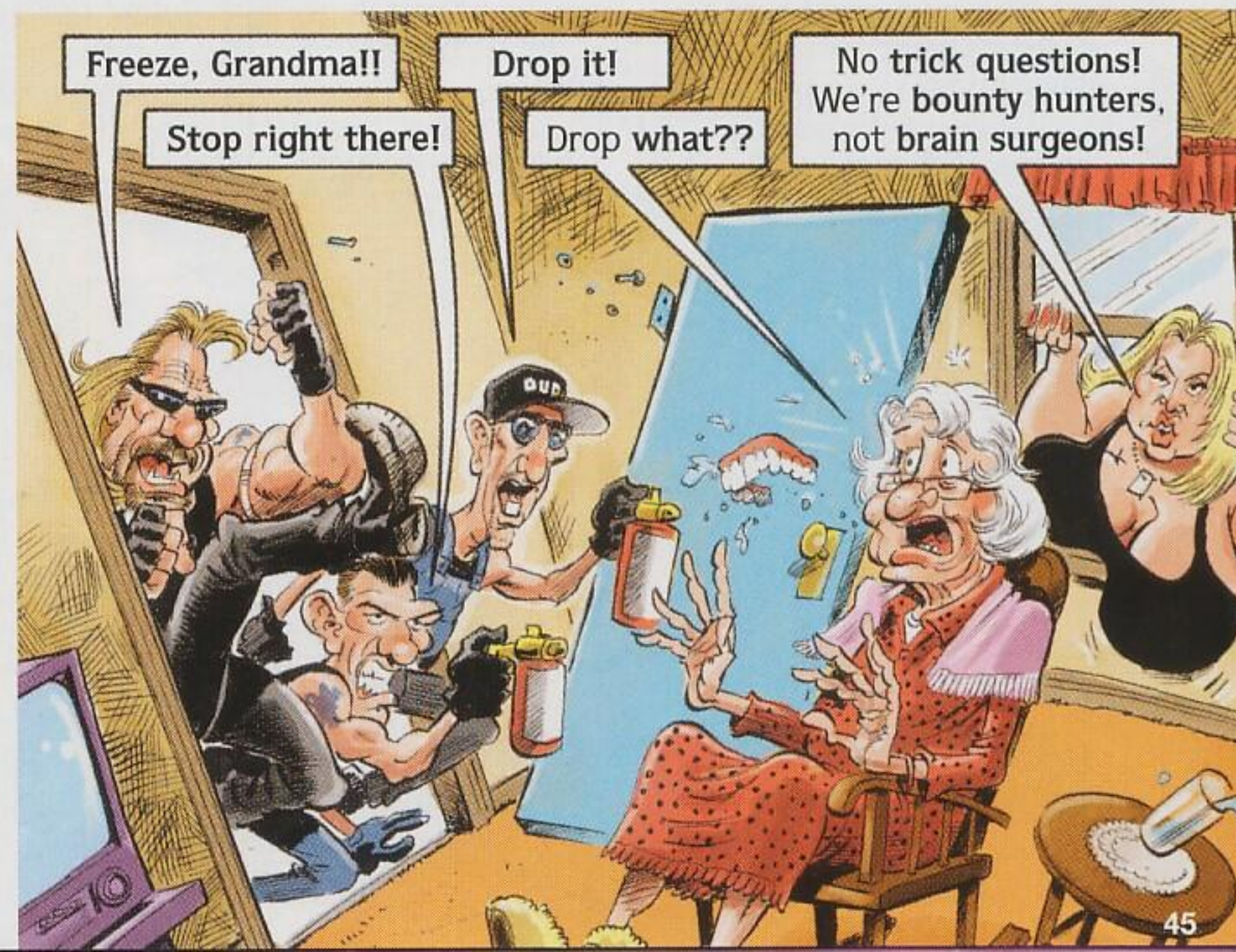
This is the place, guys. I traced our overdue library book fugitive to this address!

Gee, how'd you track her down, Dad?

Did you talk to informants? Rough up an old snitch? Put a tail on her?

No - I used our old standby - the Honolulu Telephone Directory!

Gets 'em every time!



Freeze, Grandma!!

Stop right there!

Drop it!

Drop what??

No trick questions! We're bounty hunters, not brain surgeons!

...so you see, even at your age, ma'am, it's not too late to get right with the law, and with the Lord, and go straight with your life...

Please...cough, cough – I've had enough of this – cough, cough – stupid, annoying thing...

Sorry about the cigarette smoke, but our producers think it lends authenticity to give all our suspects a smoke once they're in custody!

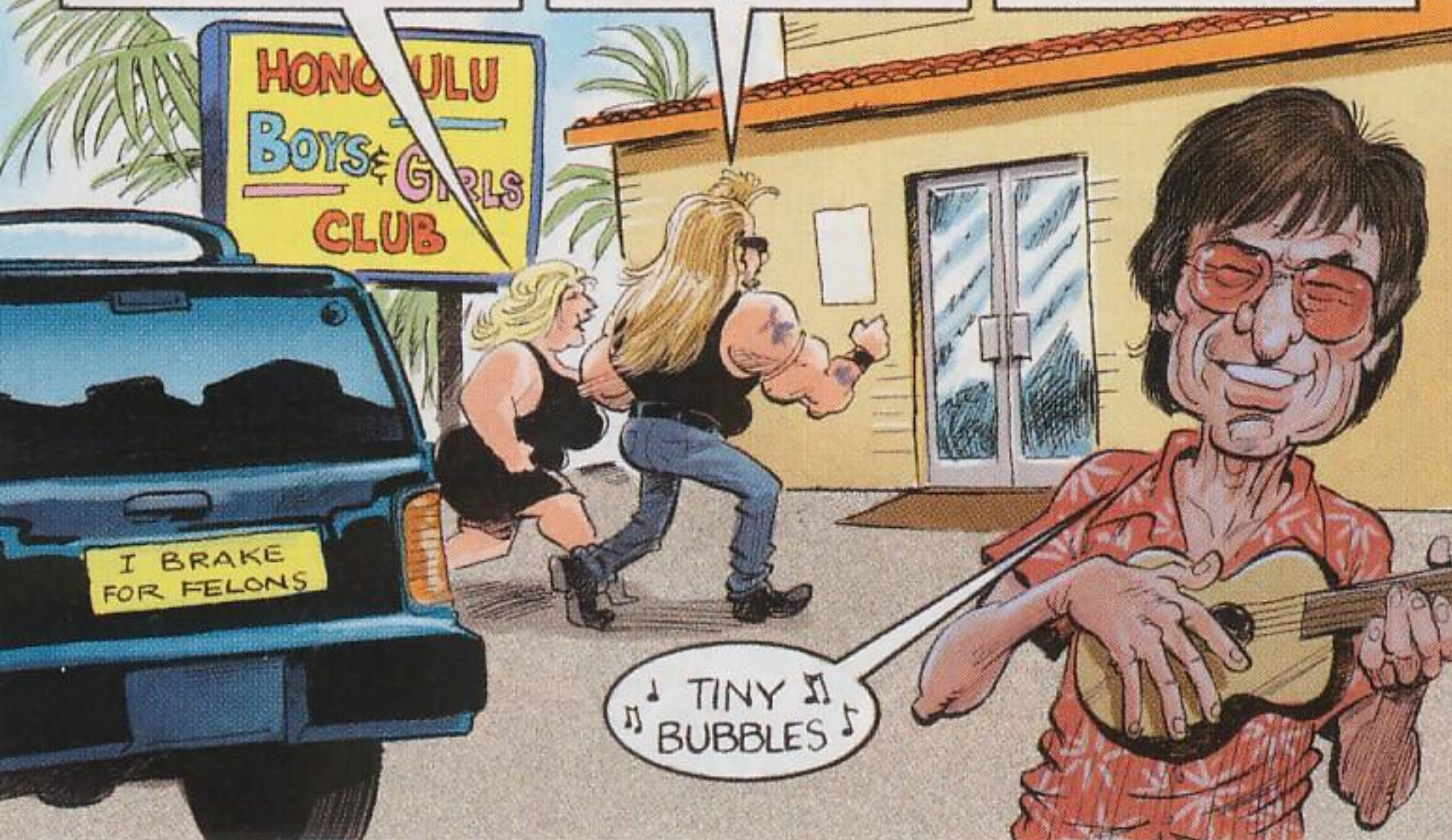
I'm not talking about the smoke – I'm talking about Dud's annoying, self-righteous sermonizing! I'm gonna throw up!



Well, this is what I call the perfect end to a productive day – seeing you honored for all your work with the Honolulu Boys and Girls Club!

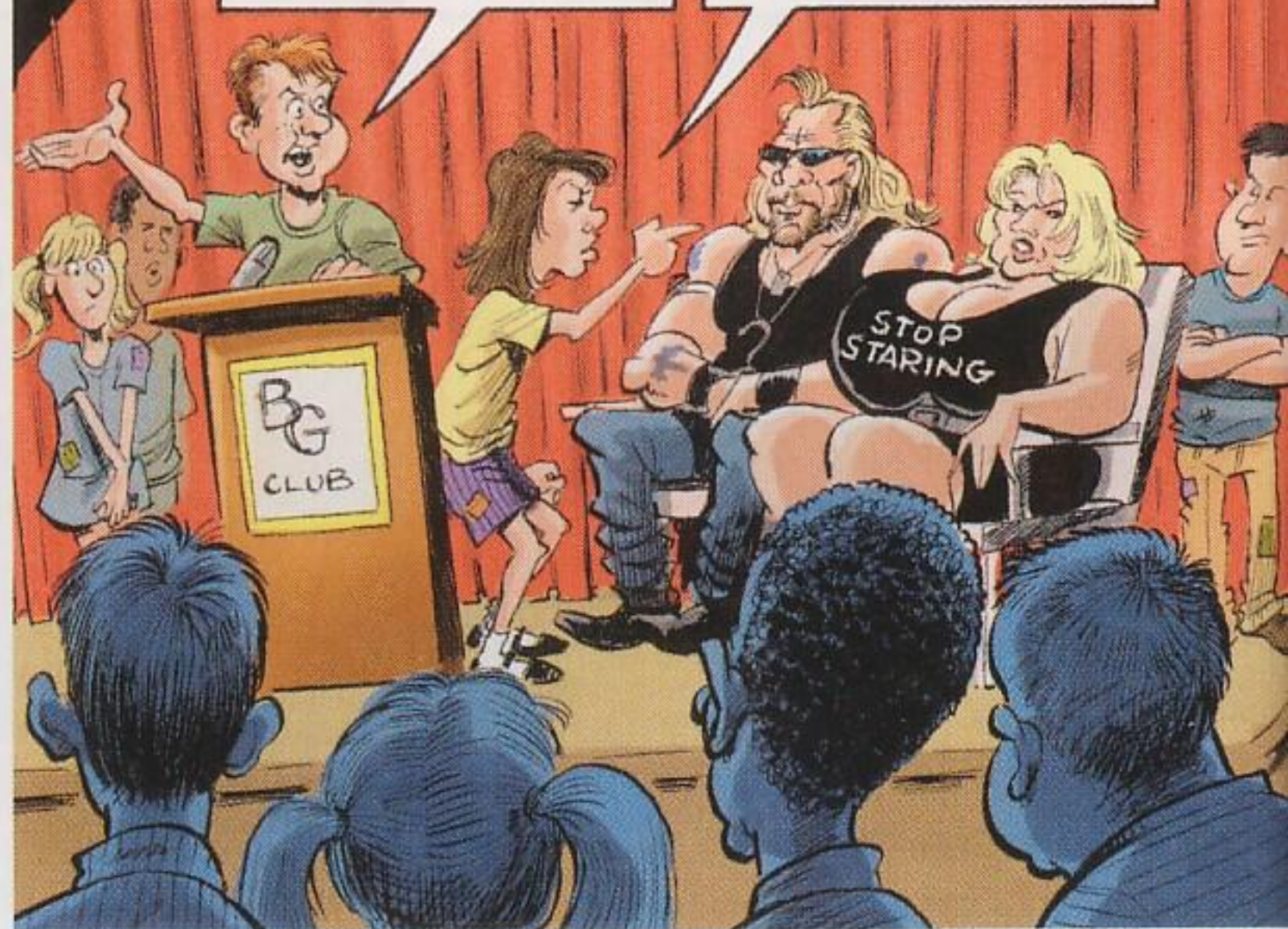
Thanks, Breasts – but I never feel like I know the right words to say at these public appearances!

Hey, if you can just go five minutes without dropping the F-bomb, I'm sure they'll be delighted with what you have to say!



...and so, Dud, we kids of the Boys and Girls Club take this chance to say "You've made a difference in our lives..."

Yeah – half of us have a parent behind bars today because you dragged them in on some trumped-up charge!



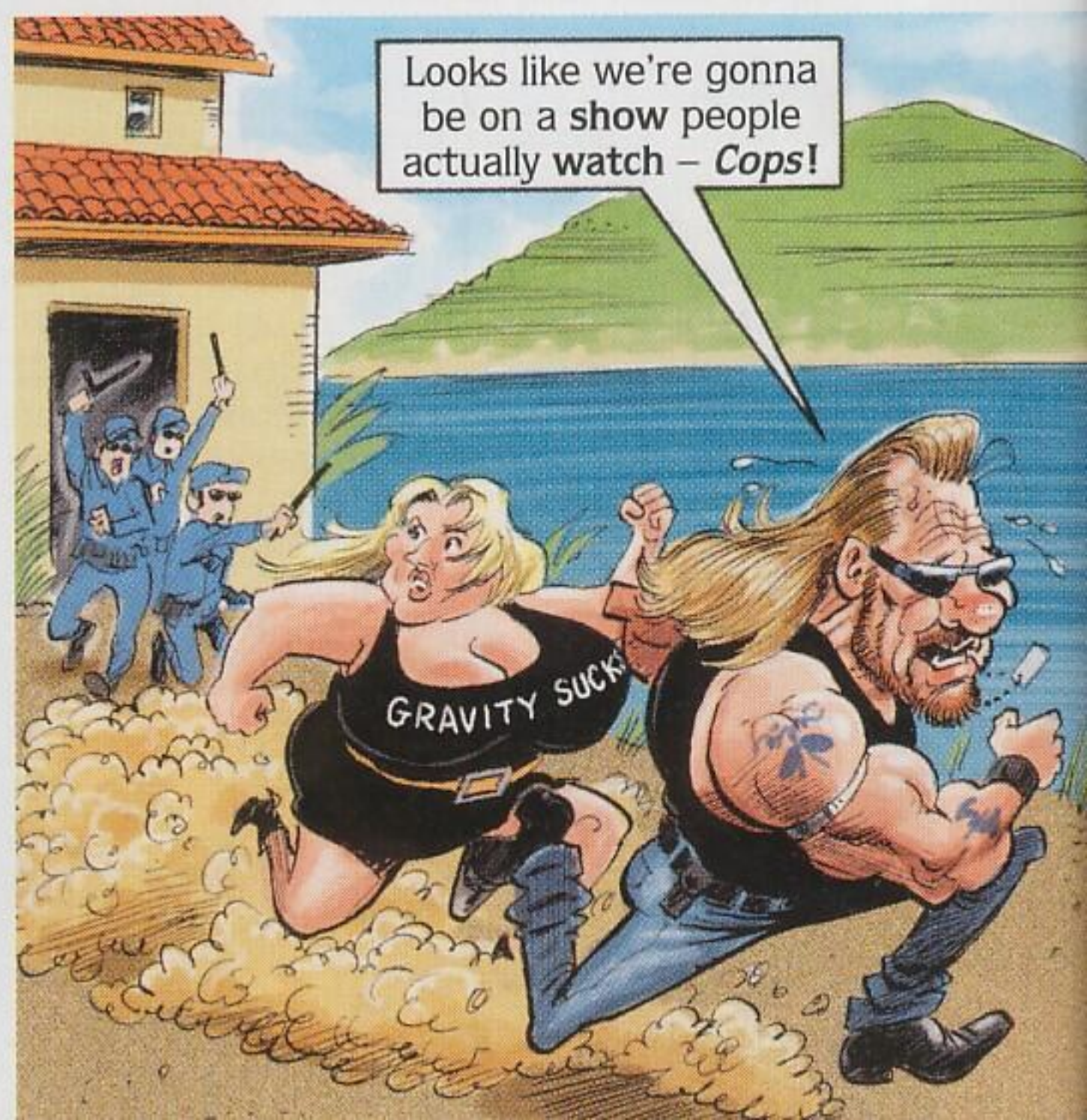
And since one good turn deserves another – we called the Mexican police about some trumped-up charges against YOU!

They want to talk to you about the bounty hunting you did in Mexico – where bounty hunting is illegal!

Quick! Let's make a run for it – or as close to a run as you can manage, Gramps!



Looks like we're gonna be on a show people actually watch – Cops!



A full-page photograph of a soldier in a desert combat environment. The soldier is in the foreground, wearing a helmet and a camouflage uniform with an American flag patch on the shoulder. He has a look of surprise or concern on his face. In the background, a large, intense explosion is erupting from a building, with bright orange and yellow flames and thick black smoke. The scene is set in a war-torn urban area with damaged buildings.

**COME FOR THE DOUGH.
STAY FOR THE QUAGMIRE.**

There's stuck. And then there's being stuck in the middle
of another country's civil war with no end in sight.

Private Ed Handley running for cover in Baghdad.



U.S. ARMY

ARMY STUCK.

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WHAT
HAS MANY
AMERICAN STUDENTS
JITTERY AND
EDGY?

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS
MAD FOLD-IN

Being a typical student means putting up with a lot of stuff that's hard to swallow. These poor, hard-working kids feel so much pressure inside, it's a miracle they can get through the day. To find out what is keeping them wide awake and anxious all night long, fold page in as shown.



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A

FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

B

FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



**REGISTER NOW AND READ
BULLETIN BOARD FOR ALL
ROOM ASSIGNMENTS**

STUDENTS FACE MANY PROBLEMS AS THEY
ENTER SCHOOL. THEY HOPE FOR A MAGIC SYNERGY
TO OCCUR TO HELP THEM THROUGH THIS
DREARY TIME. IT'S HARDER THAN ANYONE THINKS

A

WRITER AND ARTIST: AL JAFFEE

B

**WHAT
HAS MANY
AMERICAN STUDENTS
JITTERY AND
EDGY?**

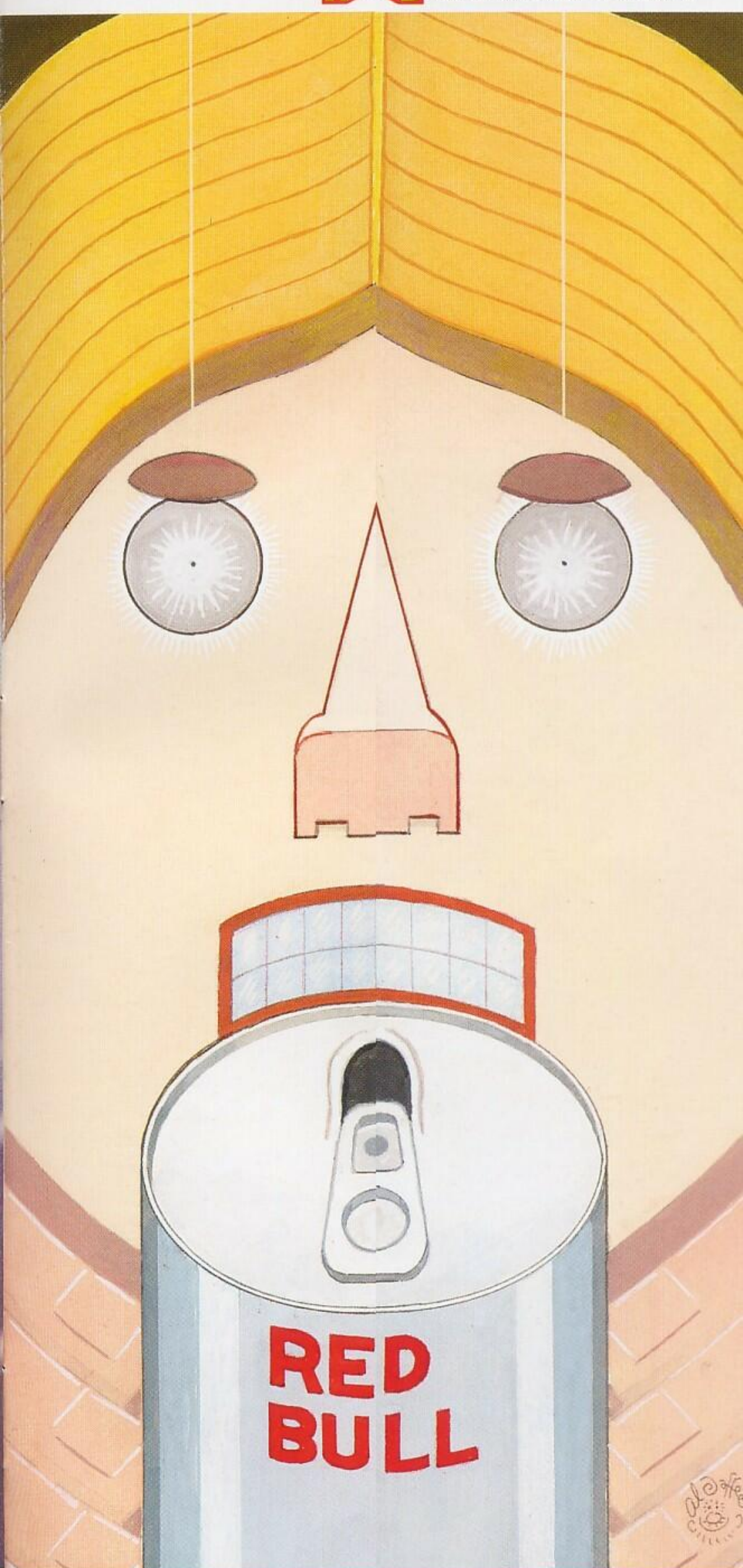


FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A

B

FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



ENERGY

DRINKS

A

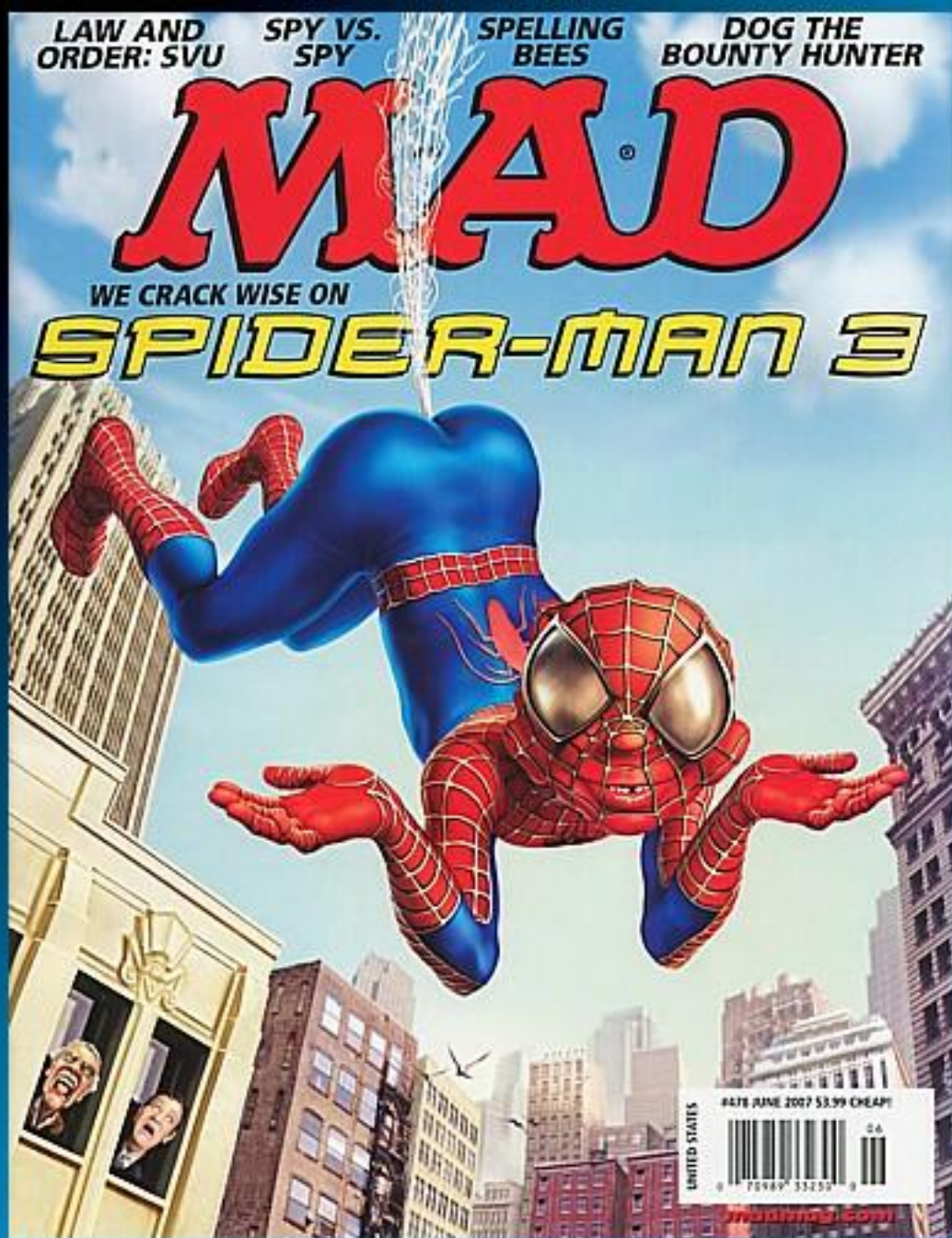
B

MYHUNGER.COM



HUNGER GETS
WHAT HUNGER WANTS

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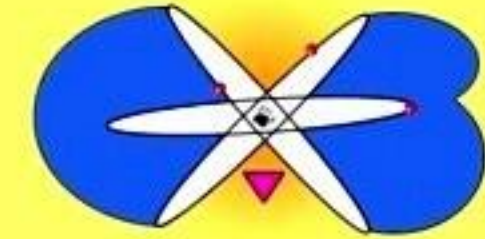
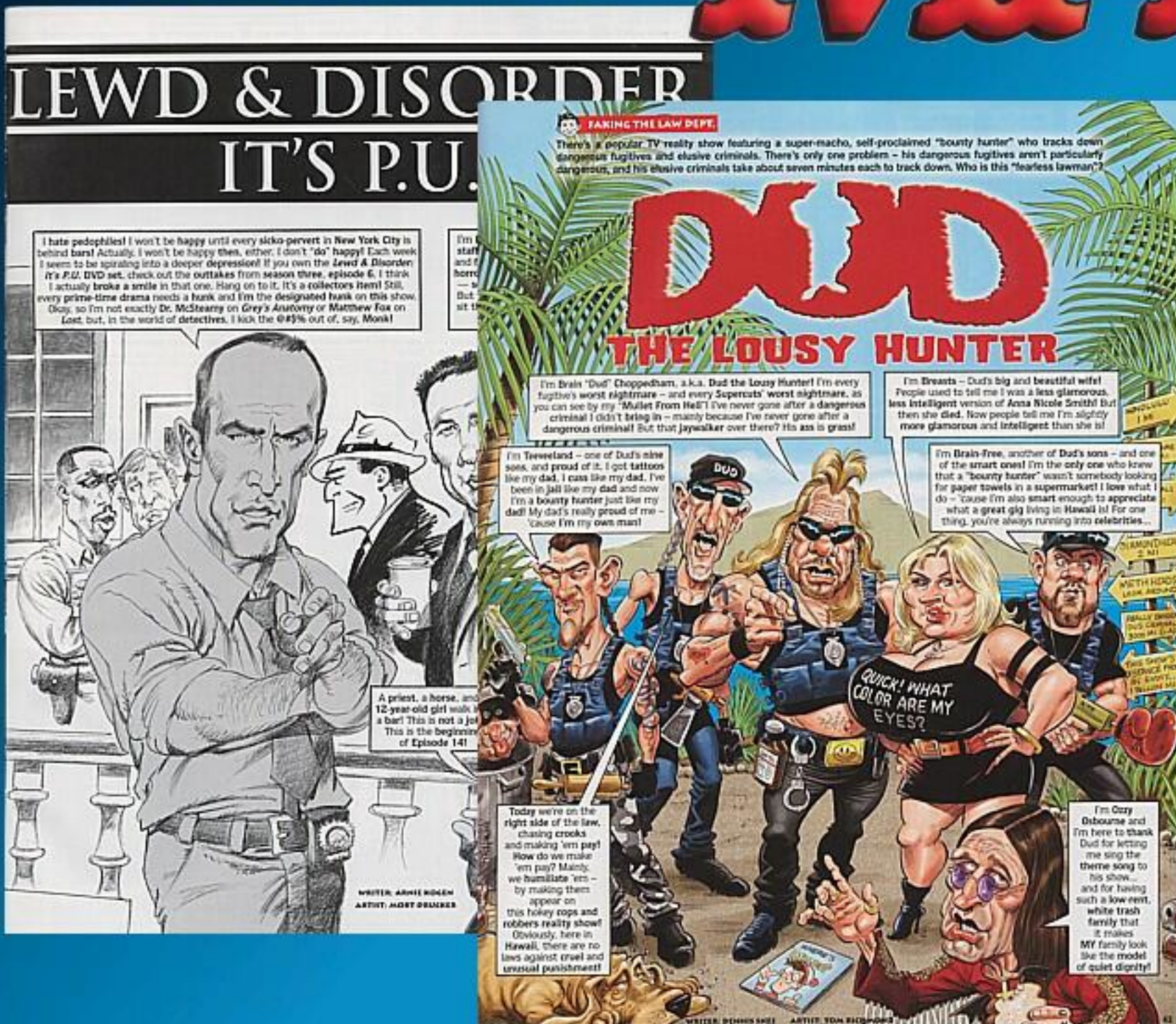


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MAD



A Comixbear / DCP Scan

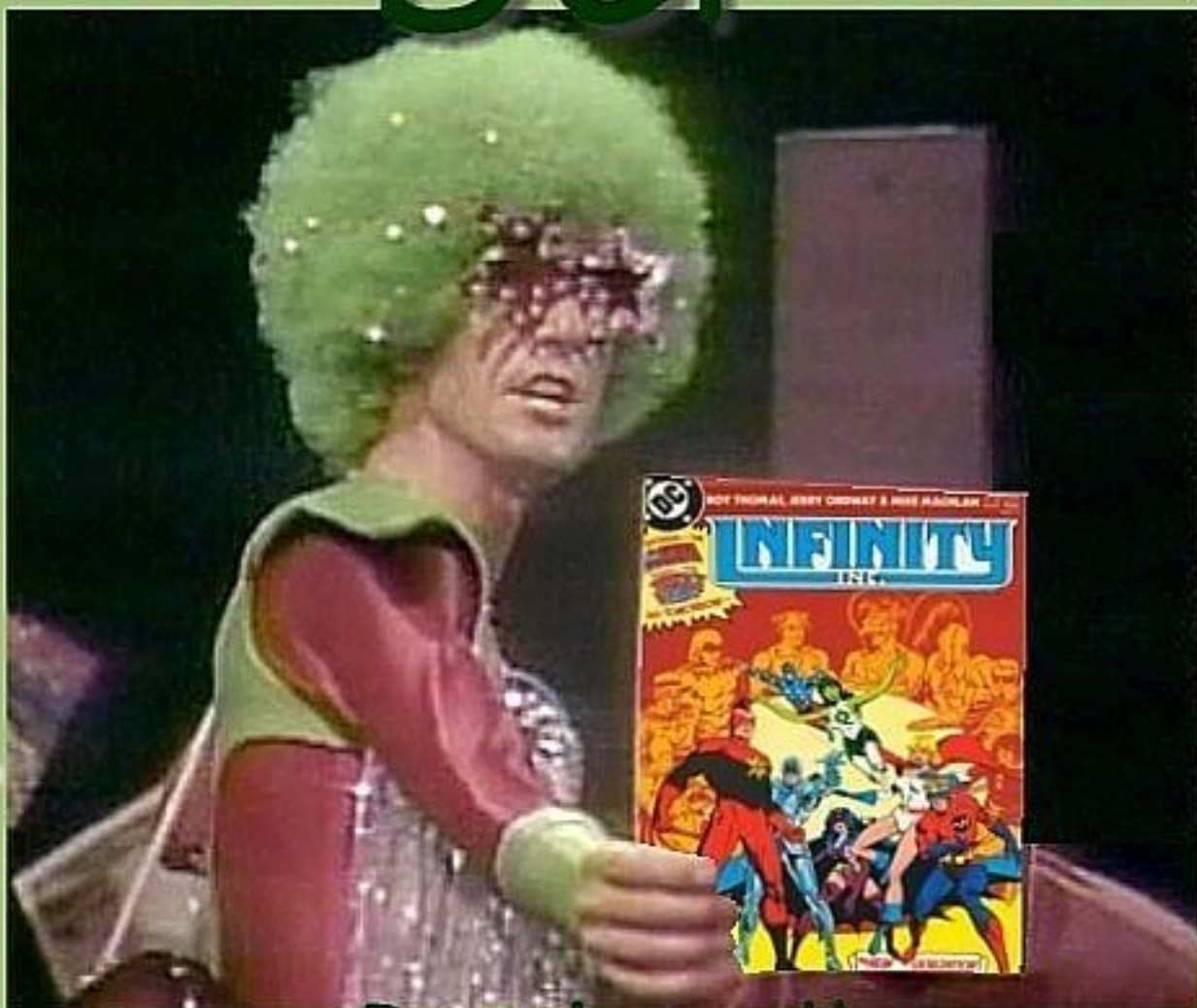


satires of Law & Order SCU & Dog
the Bounty Hunter
Photos Peter Parker Couldn't Sell To
The Daily Bugle
The Average 5th Grader Knows
Monroe & Cruelty Free
Mad's Venomous Outtakes from
Spider-Man 3



"You scanned WHAT?!?!?"
DCP

DCP



Rock on!!